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CZECHS BOUNCE THE SOCCEROOS

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

CZECHOSLOVAKIA gave Australia a lesson in just what top-class European Soccer at International level is all about by dishing out a 3-0 thrashing to the Winfield Socceroos at the magnificent Parramatta Stadium.

Make no mistake, the 3-0 scoreline in reality flattered the Socceroos.

If it hadn't been for the superb display of Australia's goalkeeper, Jeff Olver, the electronic scoreboard after 90 minutes could easily have zipped along to flash ... AUSTRALIA 0 — CZECHOSLOVAKIA 6.

Australia's World Cup captain, John Kosmina, analysed the situation in the dressing rooms after the match: "The Czechs have easily been the best side I have played against over the

last four or five years. Playing them has been a great experience. It has taught us a painful lesson which we must learn."

Kosmina went on to evaluate: "In fact, I rate Czechoslovakia far stronger opposition than Scotland, who we met in the World Cup eliminations.

"The Czechs are brilliant in holding the ball, playing very quick one-twos plus one and two

touch football. Their skill factors, reading ability, running off the ball and passing that would split two or three Australia defenders, was unbelievable."

Australian coach Frank Arok lamented: "Czechoslovakia were devastating and the classiest side to come to Australia. The big difference between the two sides was not only in the skills department.

But one has to feel somewhat sympathetic for Australia's coaches, Frank Arok and his assistant, Eddie Thomson.

attacking move we were ever so quickly cut off.

"We were tactically naive as Australia had too many new players to function efficiently against a crack European national side," confessed Arok.

Arok went on to say: "I can't be pleased with the result but we have to admit that we were completely outclassed by Czechoslovakia in this final match."

Olver, Australia's new goalkeeper, showing outstanding reflexes, courage and anticipation, made no less than four spectacular blocks to prevent a complete massacre.

But one has to feel somewhat sympathetic for Australia's coaches, Frank Arok and his assistant, Eddie Thomson.

Following the great heights of success Australia reached last year during the World Cup series, that team has been drastically cut up and changed.

Last Sunday Australia took the field with no fewer than nine overall changes to the World Cup side.

Missing were Oscar Crino, David Ratcliffe, Terry Greedy, Joe Watson, Kenny Murphy, Alan Davidson, David Mitchell, Steve O'Connor and Jimmy Patikas.

The tight, tough tackling of Ratcliffe and Murphy was bitterly missed by Australia.

Arok and Thomson have a herculean task ahead of them to quickly organise and settle an Australia side before we meet New Zealand and China later this year.

The problem of finding a right full-back continued last Sunday.

Maybe a Robbie Wheatley or Paul Carter is the solution instead of further experimentation.

And there is much worse to come for Australia.

Adding to Arok and Thomson's problems in the next week or two, will be the temporary retirement from international Soccer of two of Australia's World Cup heroes.

If my information proves correct, the impending withdrawal from the national squad by both these players for family and business reasons, will leave a huge crevasse in the Australian team to compound the agony ... (See match report Page 3).



LORENC PRAISES THE CZECHS

RICHARD LORENC, one of Australia's top class referees despite his youthful years, was full of admiration of Czechoslovakia's precision-style of play after the match at Parramatta Stadium.

Lorenc, the 34-year-old quiet Sydney Schoolteacher, who had just completed refereeing the match, paid great tribute to the Czechs.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

This match was the first A class full international match he has had to handle. Lorenc unperturbed by the big occasion, gave yet again another perfect display of free-flowing control of refereeing.

The unassuming Lorenc commented:

"The Czechs were just what you would expect from a first class European side."

"Jan Fiala their captain and sweeper, was super-efficient and their team all made space for themselves."

"Their wingers were superb."

"Precision-passing was a delightful feature of the Czech's style of play. Their defence never panicked and were always cool under pressure."

"And above all, the Czechs went about their business in a sportsman-like manner which made my job so much easier."



Richard Lorenc — a new breed of referee on the international arena.



AUSTRALIA's winger CHRIS KALANTZIS takes on the Czechoslovakian defence during Sunday's International at Parramatta Stadium.

The Editor

THERE is a saying that championships can be bought, but that is only a part of the picture. It is certainly a marvellous advantage to have tremendous funding behind a club so that the highest available quality of players can be secured.

The wherewithal comes from a big and enthusiastic support, and the examples of these clubs illuminate the national Soccer scene.

But more than that, and above and beyond the fact that the players have a professional interest in success, the pay packet itself will not achieve everything.

Big spenders such as Sydney Croatia have to create an excellent team, and the choice of players and the skills of the coach and management have an extremely important role as well.

This year the Northern Division of the Olympic Airways Soccer League has seen Sydney Olympic make a great surge ahead.

The team was the last in the two Divisions to surrender its unbeaten record. If it had to be, then who better to lose it to than Croatia.

Sydney Croatia has now made the bid for NSL success that president Tony Basic, coach Vedran Rozic and the entire team have worked for so determinedly.

Waiting in the Northern Division wings are Marconi and Sydney City in particular.

Marconi have taken longer to develop than their fans would have liked, but Les Scheinflug has a team that can pressure as the top five series comes closer.

Sydney City have at least revealed their capacity to climb and coach Eddie Thomson has promised to take out the whole shooting box of titles if they stay in the five.

Also in contention for semi-final places are Blacktown City, Wollongong City, with St George, APIA-Leichhardt and Newcastle Rosebud also challenging.

The Southern Division has seen Brunswick Juventus, handled by the sometimes uncommunicative but almost invariably successful Len McKendry, challenge the might of Footscray JUST.

The long-suffering Footscray fans have enjoyed an 'Indian winter,' much of which is due to the know-how of coach Dragoslav Sekularac.

Many old hands and the young talent such as Ernie Tapai have combined with the imports to do a sound job.

Adelaide City, with an eye on the 14 team league, have more than excelled themselves, especially, as they left Zoran Matic to manage with little reinforcement to the squad.

Heidelberg's financial struggles meant that they parted with sound players but once again coach Brian Garvey has discovered ways to bring the Bergers into contention.

South Melbourne have what it takes, but John Margaritis has struck snags as he has gradually got the Middle Park act together.

Sunshine has done more than folk expected but Preston, Adelaide Hellas, Melbourne Croatia and the Brisbane sides have so far not reached their objectives.

Preston in particular can come good. Overall however the composition of each of the final fives could lead to some highly exciting and well supported football, not to mention the what should be the standard in the national final play-offs.

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REFEREES ON THE MAKE — ROSSIS HAS POTENTIAL

IT is easy to recall that only a year or more ago there were some well-known faces on the referees panel of the National Soccer League.

BY KEITH GILMOUR

They included such leading lights as Tony Boskovic, Peter Rampley, Tim Davies, Doug Rennie, Jim Johnston and David Yelland.

They have moved out for various reasons, including that of compulsory retirement.

No matter how much the public tended to criticise them — and inevitably at times unfairly as well as fairly — the simple fact is that they have been difficult to replace.

As with the crops of players that come on from year to year, there are inevitable differences in the qualities displayed by the middlemen.

Having said this, it is still very necessary to realise that some real talent has been revealed in 1986.

Perhaps the best prospect to appear is Jim Rossis, who has been around for a while but has not been well known outside his home state of South Australia.

He received the chance to run the line in the Australia — Czechoslovakia game in Adelaide last Wednesday night.

Also to the fore have been Tony Pollard — an outstanding administrator as well as referee at State League level in NSW, and Bob Davies.

Davies has been moving in the shadow of Newcastle's Jim Reeves and now he has been showing out well.

Reeves himself handled the big Sydney Croatia — Sydney Olympic game very efficiently.

Amongst the leaders at present must be classed Chris Bambridge and Stuart Mellings (Victoria), Richard Lorenc and Gary Power (NSW) and Don Campbell (South Australia).

Maybe it won't be long before there are a few more refereeing stars to join them.

A GREEN AND GOLD MINE OF NEGLECTED TALENT!

AUSTRALIAN football is in a healthy state when it can afford to leave the resources of players such as Robbie Wheatley, David Lowe and Yakka Banovic on the outside looking in to the Socceroo squad.

BY FRANK COLETTA

moment can be a pretty frustrating experience — just ask Anthony Franken!

Also Arno Bertogna has done nothing wrong in his days with APIA-Leichhardt and really is another unfortunate player. Australia has an abundance of central defenders, each virtually capable of doing the job as well as the other.

Bertogna is up against some pretty stiff opposition in David Ratcliffe, Charlie Yankos, Robbie Dunn, Alan Hunter and Robbie Wheatley.

Which leads to Robbie Wheatley. Confined so far to only four national team appearances so far, the converted Marconi left-back is so unlucky . . .

Wheatley, since first playing for Australia in 1981 in the World Youth championships, has maintained an outstanding level of performance but has always managed to miss out on selection for the senior national team.

But why is it so? Wheatley has gone from strength to strength and, being frank, there have

been times when some central defenders have not done all that much when playing in the national side.

But then it seems comical that so many Marconi players have missed out. Les Scheinflug was one of the first to voice his disappointment: "I'm disappointed in the fact that not more of my players made the squad."

In fact Wheatley and David Lowe should have been lay down misers for a spot. Some say that both haven't shown the fortitude needed in the international arena. How will they be tested if they don't receive the chance. Surely they have to be given a run.

Lowe has been in amazing form this season. He's knocked in six goals for the Bossley Park side in the OASL and made umpteen others with his new found speed.

Lowe had set himself for the national side, and all indications were that he was there. Yet when the crunch came right down on top of him.

Continued on
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SOCCHEROOS BATTERED BY CZECHS

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER received a battering at the Parramatta Stadium when touring side Czechoslovakia ripped the Socceroos apart 3-0 despite a fabulous performance from goalkeeper Jeff Olver.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Olver taking over the gloves from World Cup keeper Terry Greedy, who has retired from the national squad, did a magnificent job.

In fact, had it not been for Olver's outstanding performance the scoreline in the end could easily have read Australia 0 — Czechoslovakia 6.

Australia took the

field severely handicapped being without six regular members of the national side.

Thus, understandably, the Socceroos played without fluency, co-ordination or flair.

The midfield combination of Graham Arnold, Zarko Odzakov and Paul Wade was a disaster although Wade was injured and even-

tually replaced.

The Australian defence of Angie Postecoglou, Robbie Dunn, Charlie Yankos and Graham Jennings were vulnerable and sadly missed David Ratcliffe's tightness in the middle.

And again understandably so.

With the Czechs repeatedly pouring through the midfield, the Aussie back-four looked like Custer's Last Stand with Olver most of all repeatedly exposed.

Left-back Jennings especially, has lost much of his brilliant attacking thrusts down the line.

Australia's strike-line of Marshall Soper, John Kosmina and Chris Kalantzis was completely ineffective and lacked bite.

Kosmina through the middle was repeatedly murdered as he was left alone to battle on his own against two if not three markers.

Kosmina's Sydney Olympic duo flankmen of Soper and Kalantzis did not help their Australian captain with any quality service or breaks down the flank to stretch the Czech defence.

The Australian midfield magnified this lack of support for Kosmina.

Time after time Kosmina retreated up to 60 metres to help "dig-out" the ball for an attack.

Czechoslovakia threatened Australia's goals as early as in the 13th minute when Czech central striker, Josef Novak planted a powerful header from eight metres out. The header sparked Olver to stretch sharply to his left to nail the danger in mid-air.

The Czech midfield trio of Karel Kula, Josef Chovanec and Ivo Kofolicek were fabulous to watch as they methodically engineered Australia's destruction.

Their sharp and almost geometrical passing, quick bursts and intelligent switches of play provided a magnificent spectacle to watch.

The Czechs always did what Australia repeatedly failed to do — retain possession.

The first goal came in the 22nd minute when a flat cross from the left side by Novak found right midfielder Karel Kula on the back post to blast a first time 12 metre drive into the far corner of the net.

The 38th minute saw Kalantzis, with his back to goals, spin round and smash his shot just wide of the Czech's left post.

Right on halftime, Czechoslovakia could have added another scalp for the first session.

A cross fired in by Novak across the face of Australia's goal, flashed right through as left striker, Stanislav Griga just failed to connect with his diving header well inside the six yard box.



CHRIS KALANTZIS on

run

Nine minutes after "drinks" the Czechs were awarded a somewhat generous, but technically correct penalty for a foul committed by Jennings on Kula.

Lubos Kubik with a deceiving stumbling approach to the ball, struck the penalty into Australia's net.

The 59th minute saw the Czechs' captain and sweeper, Jan Fiala, whip in a cross from the right

into the box but Novak in front of goal saw Olver pull off a glorious, if not courageous save, stealing the ball off Novak's shooting boot.

Garry McDowell who came on as a substitute, speculated with a 35 metre drive that had line and length but too much elevation for the Czech cross-bar.

The 73rd minute saw a great opportunity for Australia to pull back a goal.

Centre-back Robbie Dunn, pushed up into the penalty area to meet a cross, but in the last split second, Fiala stole the ball right off Dunn's boot to block the danger.

Near the end, from a Charlie Yankos free-kick 20 metres out, Graham Arnold climbed well but his header clipped the top of the Czech cross-bar.

With seconds left on the clock, Czechoslovakia nailed in the third goal.

A lovely cut-back off the by-line on the right into the box, saw Kubik smash a short drive that crucified Olver.

Best performers for Australia were Olver, Kosmina and Kalantzis whilst for Czechoslovakia there just was no individual best.

The Czechs attacked as a unit and defended in the same, tight, well organised fashion.

The lesson here by Czechoslovakia was that everybody defends and everybody contributes to attack.

AUSTRALIA: Olver: Watson (Postecoglou 5th also replaced in 49th minute by McDowell), Dunn, Yankos, Jennings: Odzakov (Farina 69th), Arnold, Wade (Gray 20th): Soper, Kosmina, Kalantzis.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Miklosko: Straka, Ondra, Fiala, Rada: Kula, Chovanec, Kofolicek (Hasek 72nd): Griga (Kjoseinik 79th), Novak, Kubik.

Referee: R. Lorenc.

Crowd: 10,104.

In answer to queries as to whether he will attempt to salvage the series at Parramatta Stadium, Arok claimed it was unlikely he would be tempted to revert to his strongest squad to try to level it up.

Czechoslovakia's manager, Josef Masopust, was quite annoyed with the physical play of the Socceroos and showed his disgust when he stormed off the bench in the first half in protest.

"We are here to experiment and I must give everyone in the squad a chance to show what they can do, otherwise all of this would be a useless process."

The AUSTRALIAN side lines up prior to the 3-0 defeat at the hands of the Czechs.

AROK SATISFIED DESPITE LOSS

EVEN though the Socceroos went down in their second international against Czechoslovakia 1-0 at Adelaide's Hindmarsh Stadium, coach Frank Arok was not totally unhappy.

Arok believes Australia is now learning how to play real football, but still has to overcome its "primitive" approach play if it is to be a serious challenger to top world footballing nations.

Czechoslovakia certainly outclassed the Aussies in skill and technique but as ever Australia's commitment and determination was second to none.

A goal in the 49th minute by Stanislav Griga after a defensive lapse gave the Czechs a well deserved victory.

Arok was far from upset with the result and claimed it was just another learning process for the team.

"People ask me what I think about the result ... I don't think anything, nothing at all," Arok said.

"We are rebuilding a team. You just cannot expect things to fall into place all of a sudden. We are learning and we are learning how to play from a great team."

"Sure, it will need hard work and plenty of commitment before we can reach a stage where we can be happy."

Arok said the biggest problem was in the midfield.

"They (the Czechs) showed us just how it should be done. We have to learn from them, to learn how to hold the ball and play in the middle of the park. We are primitive when it comes to that style."

The Czechs took the game simply because they did not make the silly mistakes the Aussies did. There was a single goal in it and the difference was the error in defence when the Czechs scored.

Australia's new-look side took time to adapt and tended to disrespect possession of the ball.

Czechoslovakia were in a spot of bother early as the Socceroos played their typical harrying and hastling game.

They might have gone ahead after only a quarter of an hour when Ivan Hasek latched onto a cross and sent a fine header goalward. Jeff Olver was well beaten but Zarko Odzakov, proving one of Australia's best in this series, headed off the line.

Maxwell did a good job up front. He put on a display of hearty running but didn't get too many chances in front of goal.

Arok explained that

he was not upset by the hostile crowd reaction to his replacing the home-town player in the second half.

"Maxwell is a good player who will get better with more experience and once he recognises that he is part of the team," he said.

Both sides went at each other until half-time and were locked evenly in most departments including the 0-0 scoreline.

Lubos Kubik then took control of the midfield and began to influence the game more and more.

Four minutes into the second half Griga pounced on the Australian mistake and made it 1-0.

Even though no goals came from the forwards, both Arnold and new-boy Steve Maxwell of Adelaide City were in fine form.

Arnold's work-rate was outstanding and he was unlucky not to grab his seventh goal in only eight appearances for the Socceroos when he hit the bar.

Maxwell did a good job up front. He put on a display of hearty running but didn't get too many chances in front of goal.

Arok explained that



ROBBIE DUNN is carried off in the 10th minute with a knee injury.

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THE GLOVES ARE OFF WITH TERRY GREEDY



CZECHOSLOVAKIA showed why they are so highly regarded in European Soccer with a brand of football rarely seen in Australia. Their skill and team-work was excellent, always composed and rarely ruffled.

This type of Soccer continually caught the Australians flat-footed with sharp one-twos around the box.

The Australian midfield combination was most disappointing against such opposition and it seemed Australia needed to play with four midfielders. It is evident from last Sunday's exhibition that Grahame Arnold is of more value in the strike-line where John Kosmina the Australian captain, had to

fight a lone battle.

The right-back spot continues to pose a problem with no less than three players being tried. Maybe it is time a regular right back was selected.

Australia's answer to Kojak, Kenny Murphy, was guest presenter at a Sydney City presentation last week.

Although City's coach Eddie Thomson says it was purely coincidental,

Kenny was asked to present a hair-dryer to the Best and Fairest Player.

Kenny says he is not game to use one himself for fear it might blow what little hair he has left off his head.

★★★

Joe Watson was honoured for his service to the national team with a presentation by ASF President, Sir Arthur George at halftime at the Parramatta Stadium.

Joe was thrilled to get five minutes on the pitch but felt he could have kept playing.

Obviously after five minutes and taking into account his age, those on the bench felt he was beginning to struggle.

One player, Jeff Olver, had an outstand-

ing match and certainly cemented his place in the team.

Peter Raskopoulos missed the game through injury sustained in the dressing rooms last Friday at training.

Evidently the injury was inflicted by another midfielder who is at present injured (and balding).

Could this be a new way to eliminate any threats to his position?

★★★

Parramatta Stadium proved beyond doubt that it is an excellent venue for international Soccer last Sunday.

It is to be hoped that the A.S.F. is able to gain access to the Stadium for future internationals.

The close proximity of

the grandstands on either sides provides excellent viewing for the spectators.

A full house would certainly generate an atmosphere similar to that present at overseas venues.

★★★

After the success of the Terry Greedy Soccer Clinics formed in the May School holidays a further camp has been organised to operate from the 25th to the 29th of August.

Once again specialised coaching will be provided by former Australian World Cup players with guest appearances by current members of the national squad.



Clubs or parents wishing to enrol their children for the week-long clinic should ring 02-5224445 for further information.

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★★★

Tomorrow night, St George travels to Marconi for their NSL encounter and no doubt David Lowe, Rod Brown, Robbie Wheatley and Paul Carter will be anxious to prove to National coach Frank Arok that they deserve a place in the next national squad to play China later this year.

For several years Paul Carter has been included in national train-on squads but has been unfortunate not to make the final cut.

With the right-back problem that surfaced during the Czechoslovakian series Carter must surely come back into calculations again.



JOHN KOSMINA ... on the ball.

A FINAL FAREWELL FOR LITTLE JOE

SUNDAY saw the curtain close on the international career of one of Australia's finest and heartiest midfielders, Joe Watson, otherwise affectionately known as 'Jinky'.

Fittingly, the little, bearded man was given the honour of leading the Socceroos onto the field for the final international against Czechoslovakia.

It was irrelevant that he only stayed on for less than five minutes — it was a just reward and a 'thank you' from the Australian Soccer fraternity for the loyal ser-

vice he has given to the game.

At half-time Joe was presented with a gold award from ASF President, Sir Arthur George. It is a new idea that goes along the lines of a gold award for players who have played 30 or more internationals for Australia, silver for those between 20 and 30 and bronze for the

great also.

"Even though I'm finished with the international scene I still feel I've got a long way to go on the club front with Sydney City."

and very strong, while being extremely mobile.

If he can add a bit more sureness of touch and a little more dribbling skill on the ball, this young man, with the natural improvement that should come with more years and experience, could become a great striker.

Raskopoulos seems to need more stamina to exploit his great strength and passing skills.

Strong, heavily built people such as Raskopoulos are usually not good long runners, but they can become good middle distance runners, which is what modern midfield play often demands.

He is a good player, aggressive and authoritative.

Graham Arnold, were all new — or relatively new — faces who performed well.

A brilliant dash and smother save by Olver showed his class, as did his general composure and confidence.

Postecoglu got forward quite a lot as was expected, but he also impressed me with his general tenacity which suggests he will not be just an attacker who attacks from the back.

Chris Kalantzis has outstanding physical attributes. He is fast, tall

Wade is slim, but strong, steely and talented.

Graham Arnold scores goals.

He is more than that, of course, as his work at Sydney Croatia coming from deep positions testifies.



He displayed many neat and telling touches that only come from a player who knows what he is about.

We could also apply this remark to John Kosmina, who played balls off remarkably well all through the game.

That is the sharpest and best form I have seen from Kosmina in recent years.

Also impressive was the way the tall and strong Zarko Odzakov went about his work in midfield.

He did in fact work. Allied to his skill on the ball and shooting power this makes him an excellent player.

Charlie Yankos was sure and safe at the back.

However, this in some ways points to a weakness in the team.

The five man defence, used for much of the time, were not able to create, build and launch good attacks.

Yankos, as sweeper and consequently getting a lot of loose balls, currently lacks the ability to play creative, or even telling balls out of defence.

The same can be applied to the other two central defenders, depending on the three central defenders Frank Arok chooses.

Because of the plainness of the play of these players, the whole team can often seem plain and rather ordinary.

On the other hand they are all extremely good defensively, Ratcliffe, and Yankos in particular.

It is in these central positions from which the goals are scored in Soccer.

If you have a good goalkeeper and three good central defenders you can be very hard to beat.

On the other hand it has its own de-merits when it comes to creating moves that score goals.

Overall, however, this team has outstanding potential.

Physically it is well placed.

There is a lot of height and strength in the team, though Arok might still like a bit more pace, especially in attack.

The role of playmaker is important, with Joe Watson gone.

The development of Raskopoulos will be important there.

The Czechs are a good side, but so is ours.

As with the World Cup team now partly disbanded, I think this team will free us from the embarrassment, experienced in previous years, when our representative teams were obviously out of their class.

A gap in class is still there, but it is closing.

This team will close the gap even more.

GAP CLOSES TO INTERNATIONAL CLASS

THE first step toward Olympic Involvement by Australia had many pluses for Frank Arok as his team battled to a 1-1 draw with Czechoslovakia in Melbourne.



BY MIKE JOHNSON

Jeff Olver, Angie Postecoglu, Chris Kalantzis, Peter Raskopoulos, Paul Wade and

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GREEN GOLD MINE

from page 2

Rod Brown, hindered by injuries, has also been terribly unlucky, as has Robbie Slater, who in the eyes of many falls down with his finishing.

A curious 'omission' is John Yzendoorn. Who, you may well ask, Yzendoorn, now of Brunswick Juventus, has

done little wrong since his last match for Australia back in those days of Rudi Gutendorf. One of his actions is believed to have put him offside with the Australian Soccer Federation and left him with little chance of making the Socceroos once more.

A fine sweeper is Yzendoorn, a player who led by example when South Melbourne took away the 1984 NSL.

The list goes on. Sydney Croatia's best player by a mile this season has

been Wally Savor, but he wasn't rating a mention around selection time. Marconi's midfield enforcer Craig Mason is another that has never been given a shout. Then there's Steve Blair, Russell Stewart, Mark Brown and ...

ANYWAY here we go: Banovic, Savor, Bertogna, Yzendoorn, Wheatley, Petersen, McCulloch, Tapal, Lowe, Brown, Zinni.

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There is also an extension course for holders of the Level 2 Certificate.

Director of the Elastoplast Sports Trainers' Camp is Dr Bill Webb, a past President of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation whose extensive experience covers all levels from

local juniors to Commonwealth Games, World Championships and Olympic Games.

Bill Webb will be working at the Camp with a highly qualified and experienced team of senior members of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation.

The staff includes Dr Peter Barnes (National Chairman of the Australian Sports Trainers' Scheme and Medical Officer to the Australian Water Polo Team), Dr Brian Corrigan (Medical Officer to the Australian Soccer Federation), Colin O'Brien (physiotherapist for Australian and Queensland Rugby Teams) and Phil Richardson (physiotherapist at the NSW Sports Centre and with the Australian Women's Basketball Teams and the Australian Junior Track and Field Team).

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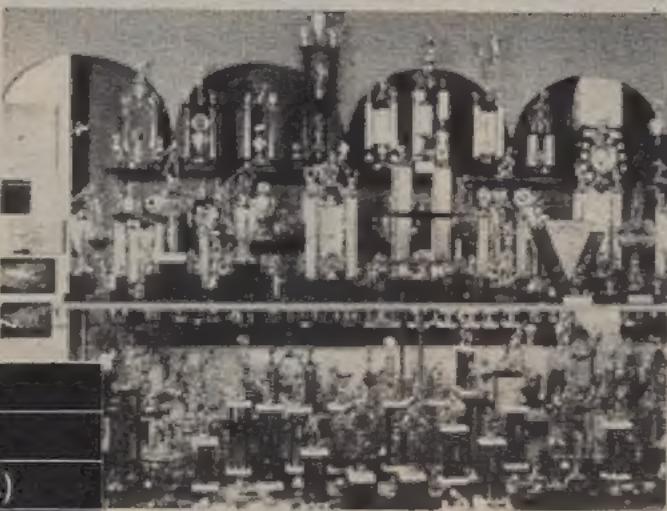


Dr Bill Webb is shown demonstrating sports training discipline at the Elastoplast Sports Trainers' Camp.

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SIX SUCCESSFUL YEARS FOR PETER SAWDON

GEORGETOWN's player-coach, Peter Sawdon, returned home to England recently after six successful years in Tasmania.

FROM JOHN TSCHEPPEERA

Sawdon's first club, Launceston Juventus, acquired his services in early 1981 and he remained with them till the end of the 1982 season.

During this time he proved his ability to strike fear into his opponents as he scored profusely.

Sawdon, from Teeside, England, left his club, South Bank, after a successful four years to try his luck in Tasmania during the glorious years of the statewide State League competition.

But, after two seasons with Juventus, he left that club as a result of a contractual dispute and signed as player-coach of Devonport, subsequently leading them to the 1983 League title.

He signed with Georgetown at the beginning of 1984 because it was closer to home

and, after some initial team-building and re-organisation, led them to the '84 League title.

He continued gathering honours for himself and his club in 1985 including the Steve Hudson Cup, league title and Night Series Cup, and numerous best player awards including the George Dale Award and the Rothmans Gold Medal as Tasmania's best player.

The 1986 season brought more honours, and he left the 'Town perched on top of the League ladder for a third year.

As player-coach, he has won a hat-trick of League premierships.

He has also been one of the leading goalscorers over the six years.

Sawdon maintains that to be successful discipline and dedication are essential.

He even feels a team

from Tasmania in Australia's National League should be an aim.

He will continue his Soccer career in England, but, he says, "there's always a chance that I might come



ROTHMANS MEDAL
WINNER 1985

Peter Sawdon
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back."

Georgetown has named senior team players Liam Monagle and Chris Carstens as the coaches for the remainder of the '86 season after the departure of Peter Sawdon.

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER LEAGUE ROUND UP

CANBERRA TAX BERRIES WITHOUT A REWARD

CANBERRA took Canterbury to the cleaners for 90 minutes at Bruce Stadium, but failed to knock any spots off the visitors in a frustrating 0-0 draw.

BY KEN HEALEY

The failure to take both points in the postponed round 13 match effectively deprived Canberra of a chance of a midfield position. Among its last six opponents are the top four team in the Northern Division.

The corner kick count of 16 to four in Canberra's favour tells some of the story of territorial dominance that was not

converted into goals.

A desperate Steve Bryant, Canberra's player-coach, replaced himself and defender Jason Dunn with attackers Ray Junna and Tony Lemazina late in the game, but all that can be said for Canberra's attack was that it helped Canterbury goalkeeper, Ian Barker to be voted best man on the ground.

Canberra midfielder Tom Sermanni made

several slashing runs down the centre in the second half. Hilton Phillips was always dangerous on the wing and forced Barker's best saves.

In defence Jim Cant and young Peter Mazis, a last minute replacement for Terry Byrne, won every ball that came their way.

Canberra's keeper George Economopoulos blocked bravely with his body on Canterbury's first break-away when Rene Licata faced him.

Otherwise, all the action was at the end of the park.

Zaimi Burin never stopped trying to go forward for Canterbury but he had no support.

On this form both teams will stay in the bottom four.

CANBERRA: Economopoulos, Cant, Mazis, Dunn (Lemezina 77), Harkins, Sermanni, Hamilton, Bryant (Junna 65), Gibson, Palecios, Phillips.

CANTERBURY: Barker, Zvinos (Philippou 28), Hantzis, Hanolitis, Radman, Akoutas, Jibraili, Fierminis, Burin, Godzik, Licata.

Referee: T. Pollard

Crowd: 692

PLENTY OF SOCCER FOR THE FANS

By JOHN ECONOMOS

THREE deferred NSL matches will be played tomorrow night postponed from last Sunday's Round 17 due to the international match against Czechoslovakia.

At Marconi Stadium, Marconi meets up with St George at 7.30pm whilst at Bruce Stadium in Canberra, Canberra City Olympians take on League leaders Sydney Croatia also at 7.30pm.

At the St George Stadium, Sydney Olympic will meet visitors Apia and again kick-off has been set down for 7.30pm.

Olympic are desperate to stay within strike-distance of Sydney Croatia the League leaders with the hope of overtaking them for their first-ever League

Championship.

On paper, Sydney Olympic should take both League points from Terry Butler's team. But this is Soccer and people of the calibre of Butler and Arno Bertogna are unyielding professionals and will not allow Olympic a free-rein.

At Marconi Stadium, Rod Brown, Robbie Wheatley, David Lowe and Paul Carter will face Frank Arok's St George with a point to prove to him.

The men from Marconi could make life difficult for St George on the night.

SOCER FEAST FOR THE FANS

NEXT SUNDAY at the St George Stadium a double header will be staged for the deferred NSL matches from Round 18.

In the first match starting at 1pm, St George meets Blacktown City whilst the main match starting at 3pm sees arch-rivals Sydney Olympic clash with Sydney City.

The Saints will have back on deck their skipper and sweeper, David Ratcliffe, despite rumours in the press that he missed last week's last two matches against Czechoslovakia because of injury.

"I am not injured and will be fit to lead St George on Sunday against Blacktown City," the rangy international defender stressed.

In the main match, Sydney Olympic will be out to recapture their NSL ladder lead when they face the rapidly improving Sydney City led by their current internationals, John Kosmina and Frank Farina.

Olympic also will have back their four National squad members, captain Peter Raskopoulos, Tony Dakos, Chris Kalantzis and crowd favourite Marshall Soper.

Raskopoulos missed last Sunday's match with Australia against Czechoslovakia with badly split blisters on his foot.

Raskopoulos will lead Olympic into this top annual battle against Eddie Thomson's lads.

A galaxy of stars will be on display including Mike Coady, Martyn Rogers, Raskopoulos, Kalantzis, Kosmina, Murray Barnes, Farina, Dakos, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Vicente Estavillo to mention a few.

This will be Eddie Thomson's last chance to bust through into the Top Five and lock up a position for the big matches in the Play-Offs.

After ten years of NSL derbies during which there have been some classic matches and plenty of aggression, this was a tame curtain call.

Lions never attacked with full commitment and City, once behind, seemed content to see out the time and suffer.

Both sides lacked composure in their play as the ball was pushed

around at a frantic pace, mostly in the air, which resulted in repeated lost possession.

The first 20 minutes produced a few half chances, but nothing which really tested either keeper.

Lions twice appealed for penalties in the opening spell, first when Jim Morton was barrelled and the second for a rough-house tackle on Danny Wright.

But referee Bill Monteverde, who has gained a reputation for awarding penalties in Brisbane this season, surprisingly waved play on.

The vital Lions break came in the 27th minute and highlighted poor marking in the City defence.

Russell Stewart, released from the Socceroo squad after not being used by Frank Arok in any of the matches against Czechoslovakia, began the move with a well-placed free kick.

Danny Wright flicked the ball on to Davey Richardson, positioned

in the middle of the goal, and the unbelievable space he was given enabled the Irish import to control, turn and slot his shot away.

The second half was a bore for the spectators, although a number of players including Lions' Frank Liddell and Steve Jackson and City's George Caird and Frank Mengotti toiled to no avail.

The only highlight came when Monteverde finally lived up to his reputation and awarded a Lions penalty for a somewhat meek challenge by Rod Vasquez on Richardson.

Alan Niven, after using a World Cup-style baulk to send Robert Harrison the wrong way, then scooped his shot to the other corner fractionally wide.

BRISBANE CITY: Harrison, Fabrizio, Archer, Mengotti, Caird, Chapman, White, Catalano, Milosevic (Vasquez 46m), Cooper, Scriggins.

BRISBANE LIONS: Evans, R. Stewart, Jackson, Liddell, Niven, Ogden, J. Stewart, Anderson, Richardson, Wright, Morton.

Referee: W. Monteverde. Crowd 1200.

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PRESTON UPSET CASUAL BRUNSWICK

PRESTON MAKEDONIA provided the upset of round 17 when they defeated a lethargic Brunswick Juventus 2-1 at Olympic Park last Sunday.

In a game of few scoring chances and indeed few highlights, league leaders Juventus were outrun and outplayed by a better organised and more determined Preston outfit.

To many it seemed that Brunswick approached this encounter in a very casual manner as many of their 'stars' proceeded to amble through the 90 minutes showing little sense of urgency.

However, the opposition must be given credit for a display of discipline, pressure football and they never allowed the black and whites to get into the game.

Juventus began brightly enough and could easily have been 1-0 up after just four minutes when Scott Patterson picked out Joe Palatsidis with a good pass on the edge of the penalty area but Preston goalie Philip Trainedes did well to come quickly off his line and smother the ensuing shot.

Preston was applying the counter-attacking game to perfection and was looking dangerous up front whenever their twin strikers, Gary Cole and Steve Smith got into the action.

Indeed in the 24th minute it was Smith himself who struck a mighty blow when he casually latched onto a long throw ball from Ron Campbell and with keeper Yakka Banovic at his mercy made no mistake to put the visitors 1-0 ahead.

The League leaders at this point knew that they were in for a game and they managed a reply just 11 minutes later through Mehmet Durakovic after an accurate

flick-on from Patterson. But five minutes before half-time Preston struck again — with Smith again involved. The Preston forward ran onto a loose ball and was met heavily by Banovic just inside the area. It seemed that the keeper had played the ball first but the referee did not waste any time and awarded a penalty.

Gary Cole made it 2-1 from the spot and underdogs Preston went in at half-time with the knowledge that they had scored an opportune goal.

The entire second half contained maybe two clear cut scoring chances with both falling to the home team. But the real problem for Brunswick was that their midfield was shut out of the game, there was no workhorse in the centre and the absence of Paul Wade (on duty with the Australian squad) was noticeable.

One of the few highlights of the second half was a 40 metre shot from midfielder Mike Petersen which forced Trainedes into a reflex save.

Two minutes before the end John Dowie, who had replaced Durakovic, was a trifle unlucky not to equalise when he spun around in the penalty box and shot just wide of the mark. However, aside from the last 10 minutes when Juve finally began to get their act together it was overall a game best forgotten for the black and whites and Preston in the end would have been hard done by had the game been drawn.

Although Preston rarely threatened the Brunswick goal in the second half the damage had already been done and they constantly posed problems through their quick counter-attacking game.

Preston's win was only their fifth of the season and they undoubtedly proved that they are a competitive enough team to survive in next year's revamped national league.

With five rounds to play the situation in the Southern Division remains tight with

Footscray scheduled to play tomorrow night.

PRESTON: Trainedes, Ospinas, Roodhouse, Dobson, Campbell, Heys, Cole, Smith, Woodell, McLennan, Van Egmond

BRUNSWICK: Banovic, Campbell, Lewis, Yzendoorn, Brown, Cullen, Petersen, Patterson, Palatsidis, Sweeney (Vesnaver), Durakovic (Dowie)

SUNSHINE 2
ADELAIDE CITY 0

AT the Chaplin Reserve Sunshine George Cross easily accounted for a very disappointing Adelaide City combination.

Though bolstered by the return of Australian national players Steve Maxwell and Sergio Melta Adelaide never troubled George Cross

and in fact have now dropped five points from their last three games.

The Sunshine defence led superbly by Tyrone James was dominant throughout the game and completely shut out the Adelaide forwards.

In the 14th minute Carl Guilder with a lovely through pass found Steve McLaren and he showed no mercy in hammering the ball into the back of the net to open the scoring.

McLaren returned the compliment in the 70th minute presenting Guilder with a golden chance to make it 2-0 for the home side and he did just that with a well taken goal which left Adelaide keeper Willie MacNally helpless for the second time that afternoon.

SUNSHINE: Keogh, Campbell, Parton, James, Richardson, McLaren, Guilder, Mitten, Bain, Faulkner, Innes (Markovski)

ADELAIDE: McNally, Tobin, Nyskohous, Flounders, Melta, Santrac, Viliani, Mullen, Maxwell, Vidmar, Shillebeer (Wilde)

GREEN GULLY 1
HEIDELBERG 1

THE less said about this game the better as both teams proceeded to make every possible mistake in the book and in the end neither was deserving of the two points.

If anything Green Gully had a slight advantage in the game but their inexperience and at times ineptness cost them dearly in front of goal.

The Bergers on the other hand were without regular goalkeeper Jeff Olver and sweeper Alan Hunter both on duty with the Socceroos and also fullback Ian McKie and striker Claude Lucchesi.

Perhaps they could be excused for their display.

But all the same, some of their more experienced players let them down badly.

Green Gully struck first through Danny



BY CARLO DEL PORTO

Ward in the 15th minute thanks to some good work from little winger Tommy Cumming and it took a long time for Heidelberg to reply.

Doug Brown headed home from a Steve Katsakidis cross to give the Gold and Blacks a point and therefore save them the embarrassment of having lost to a team which is languishing at the bottom of the table.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Hobson, Douglas, Kennell (Campbell), Quigley, Grimand, Carter, Ward, Cumming, Theodosopoulos, McLellan.

HEIDELBERG: Ford, Marley, Katsakidis, Selemidis, Ousakas, Pappas, Kanesoulis, Valentine, Tsakalakis, Brown, Wilson.



MARSHALL SOPER flicks the ball on for a support.

THE BATTLE OF THE NATIONAL COACHES

TOMORROW night at Marconi Stadium Australia's national coaches Frank Arok (Seniors) and Les Scheinflug (Youths) will be on different sides when Marconi entertain St. George.

BY FRANK COLETTA

Much of the friendship will be tossed away for these 90 minutes as Marconi attempt to creep closer to Croatia and Olympic and St. George waver between falling below the 14-team cut off point

and getting into the top five play-offs.

Following the Australian performances against Czechoslovakia there will be some keenness in David Lowe, Rod Brown and Robbie Wheatley especially to show their wares to the national coach.

But they will have to deal with the stern task of surpassing ex-Soccer-

oo goalie Terry Greedy, recently back from injury and once again straight back into top form.

Saints will hope to have David Ratcliffe fit and well to marshall their defences against

Marconi's formidable

striking duo of Lowe,

Brown and their

Argentinian import,

Osvaldo El'Ali.

Up front the Saints will look to the experience of Roy Cotton and if he is fit also, Youth

Socceroo Scott

Ollerenshaw.

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ANTHONY FRANKEN



CHIT CHAT — Behind the scene at your club

HELLAS midfield strongman Chris Manou has been in the wars again.

After returning from suspension, he and Charlie Yankos were booked against Heidelberg in the last game before the break for the Czech matches.

Chris was fielded in the reserve team in SA's Second Division, and was sent off against Salisbury.

Fortunately he was able to serve the suspension in the local league last Saturday.

FRANK AROK must be wondering what he has to do to please some people.

He released Sydney City striker Frank Farina from Socceroo duty to play for Sydney City the other week and the front runner netted twice in City's win, but Arok met with criticism.

The supremo had merely helped City out, as he has done all the National League clubs by releasing key players despite the Socceroos' commitments.

THERE were happy reunions at Perry Park for National Youth squad members Jason Polak and John Koch when they came to Brisbane last week for the match against Czechoslovakia.

Being based at the AIS in Canberra, the pair have had only brief visits home over the past 18 months and there was a family contingent turned out to watch the team train shortly after its arrival in Brisbane and play the next night.

Polak, rated by some as this squad's equivalent of Jim Patikas, won heaps of fans within the QSF when he rated Perry Park as one of his favourite grounds.

"I love playing here, it's a big park and it suits my style," he said.

Young Socceroo coach Les Scheinfliug and his physio Charlie Jurisic, who have many friends in Brisbane, also were warmly welcomed and spent much of the time in the Sunshine State shaking hands and renewing acquaintances.



ONE TIME AUSTRALIAN GOALKEEPER EXTRAORDINAIRE

SWIMMING's gain has been Soccer's loss. Former Queenslander, Australian Institute of Sport Student, young Socceroo, and friendly house co-ordinator at Camperdown Travelodge, Craig McLatchey, has accepted a position as the new executive director of Australian Swimming Inc., the sport's equivalent to our ASF.

A serious knee injury ended Craig's fine Soccer career but if he is as efficient in swimming as he was on the field and at the Travelodge, then swimming is in for a major boost.

BRISBANE City were the brunt of a few jokes when they played a friendly against lower division amateur side Brighton during their weekend off a week ago. The cynics kept asking: "Who won?" Brighton are now coached by former City NSL player Ian Rathmell, who confirmed City coach Billy Wilkinson's story that there was no upset and the match provided City with plenty of opportunities to get use to the feeling of scoring.

DIFFICULT job coming up for Adelaide City coach Zoran Matic.

With his No. 1 keeper Willie McNally now ready to have a crack at first team duty again after six weeks out with torn right hand thumb tendons, does he put him straight back in on his previous reputation?

Seventeen-year-old Steve Niscioli has been in great touch, and on paper has done nothing to lose his place.

McNally was one of national coach Frank Arok's original choices for the current Socceroo squad and is keen to get a chance of going into camp to prove his class.

CANBERRA will be the home for this year's annual Congress of the Australian Affiliated Soccer Referees Federation, and the date will be Friday September 13. The AASRF are the unsung heroes who develop new referees, and particularly the cadets, to handle the huge number of junior and amateur games played throughout the length and breadth of Australia. Secretary Tony Pollard and his band of enthusiasts put in a deal of work to keep things moving.

AUSTRALIA has over the years produced some fine goalkeepers and many have wonderful memories of Ron Lord, Billy Henderson, Billy Morgan and Norm Conquest through to Jim Fraser, Yakka Banovic and their like.

But in the days in which JIMMY McNABB from the small mining town of Weston on the Maitland coalfields was at his peak, few other keeper got a look in.

His international career extended from 1933 to 1939 and he chalked up 17 Tests for Australia against New Caledonia, New Zealand, England Amateur, India and Palestine.

McNabb's major representative career began for NSW against Queensland way back in 1930.

He was far from being a big man but his tremendous reflexes and his command of the penalty area were undoubtedly.

■ ■ ■ JIMMY McNABB



One of Australia's very fine goalkeepers of recent times — YAKKA BANOVIC prepares himself for a corner in his Brunswick colours.

NEVER let it be said that NSL Youth League games are dull.

When Marconi played hosts to St George on Sunday August 3 a total of nine goals were scored with the lead changing hands on three different occasions.

Two players scored hat-tricks — Klaus Okon for Marconi and Zoran Beluzic for St George.

There were a couple of penalties awarded and both were converted successfully and two players received yellow cards.

St George led 4-3 in the 73rd minute and then Marconi had a player sent off for chatting up the referee.

With only ten men Marconi not only equalised but also scored the winner with just three minutes left to play.

PAUL WADE certainly isn't letting the fact that he is in the Australian National squad get to him.

Says the Brunswick Juventus midfielder: "It's good to be in the squad but it doesn't mean too much until you are in the selected first eleven."

Wade arrived in Australia from Lancashire, England in 1973, expecting to remain only a couple of years but thirteen years on he played his first match for his adopted country during the 1-1 draw with Czechoslovakia in Melbourne.

He played centre-back with Hamilton in the Scottish first division and is still contracted to the club if he leaves Australia.

■ ■ ■ FORMER Czech and Australian national coach Joe Venglos is completing a stint as Malaysia's national team boss.

He will be here later in the year to conduct a FIFA coaching seminar.

S O C C E R O O goalkeeper JEFF OLVER achieved a long-time ambition last Sunday when he played for the first time for Australia in front of his hometown Melbourne crowd.

After seven years on the international scene, dating back to 1979 when he played for the Australian Youth side, he finally played in his own backyard and did another good job.

His finest hour in the green and gold came last year in the World Cup qualifying game against Israel in Tel Aviv when he replaced an injured Terry Greedy in the first half.

Thrown in at the deep end, Olver came out with flying colours. One save was absolutely magnificent, when he showed his tremendous reflexes by saving Alan Davidson the ignominy of an own-goal.

He continued: "This is very important for us as it will be, apart from one home international, the last chance for the players to win a place in the side for the European Championships."

NO one could ever doubt that the Czechoslovakians are total professionals.

After the Socceroos grabbed that late, late equaliser thanks to Graham Arnold in the first international at Olympic Park, coach Josef Masopust, point-blank refused to use the fact that his team arrived in Australia only at 5.45am on the match day — nine hours before the kick-off — as an excuse.

"We are professional people, my players are fit, well trained and strong — quite used to that sort of thing. We did not win because we did not hold on to the ball in the last 20 minutes," said Masopust.

He continued: "This is very important for us as it will be, apart from one home international, the last chance for the players to win a place in the side for the European Championships."

CHIT CHAT — Behind the scene at your club

BRISBANE's two national league clubs have made overtures to the NSW Soccer Federation to be part of the restricted State League next year.

Officials from the clubs approached NSW Federation president John Constantine, when they attended a meeting along with the 12 northern division clubs to discuss the NSL's 14-team format for next year.

The number of teams in the NSW Federation competition will be determined by what clubs are relegated from the NSL Northern Division.

The top eight from the current 12-team State League will remain and the clubs themselves have decided that there must be a team from the Northern NSW Federation and a side from the ACT Federation.

Also a suggestion has been made that an Under 19 competition, statewide, should replace the current third grade system in clubs.

ASW agrees with Socceroo assistant-coach EDDIE THOMSON that ROBBIE DUNN must develop a real mean streak and become the enforcer in the Aussie squad.

If Dunn is able to do this he will follow in the steps of such noted 'hard men' such as David 'Bronson' Ratcliffe and Steve 'Rocky' O'Connor.

Robbie is on the right track as he holds a black belt in Tai-Kwan-Do. Now all he needs is a nickname ... maybe something like the 'Terminator'?

GRAHAM ARNOLD has been celebrating his 23rd birthday with some style.

A goal in the 1-1 draw against Czechoslovakia in Melbourne and another fine effort in Adelaide is some satisfaction, but ASW wonders what the real celebrations were like!

TWO of Adelaide's top players have been delighted with the break for the international fixtures.

Adelaide City midfielder Aurelio Vidmar has been able to tend his dicky ankle to be fully fit again, and the same goes for Hellas striker George Konstantopoulos who has been carrying a recurring ankle injury for weeks.

JUST in case you are wondering what happened last Sunday prior to the first international match when the Czechs arrived only nine hours before kick-off, here is the explanation.

ASF Executive Director Brian Emery said he was mystified why the party of 36, which included 11 youth players, failed to turn up.

"The last message I received was a telex on the Thursday confirming that all but two of their senior players would arrive on Saturday. The two players were stuck in Holland and would be here a couple of days later," Emery said.

Emery said the Czechs had planned initially to arrive on Wednesday but there was a hitch with visas. "There is no Australian consulate in Czechoslovakia and everything had to be fixed up in Poland.

"The final arrangement was that they would stop over in Belgrade and catch a Yugoslavian Airline flight and be here on Saturday morning," he concluded.

FRANK AROK is a man adept at hiding his emotions before matches, although not during them, but he admitted to being under pressure and nervous before the Czechoslovakian series began.

Arok openly stated that he and his side were in a scary situation. Their credibility was at stake.

"I guess I felt a little scared. I didn't know what to expect. Certainly, I was more nervous than when we played against England in 1983 and against Scotland last year.

"Inevitably we were going to be measured in this series by what we did against Scotland," said the Socceroo coach.

SYDNEY'S poker machines grabbed the attention of the Czechoslovakian youth team.

They were seen at the Parramatta Leagues Club on Sunday before the senior international trying their luck at the one-armed bandits.

Eyes lit up as they headed for the nearest machines with coins in hand.

Whenever one of them struck a "pay" it would signal a rush from the other players to see what was going over.

One of the players was having such a good run that his mates forgot about the machines they were playing and congregated around the winning team-mate.

ADELAIDE'S new casino certainly proved a hit with a few of the Socceroo players and coach Frank Arok.

They invaded the casino after Wednesday night's 1-0 loss to the Czechs and had the same sort of luck — bad.

ADELAIDE Hellas midfielder Lou Hristodoulou is holding a unique position on the national scene.

He is the only member of the 1985 Socceroo Youth team still lining up following the '85 preliminary World Youth Cup finals.

The other SA player in the current squad is State League defender Damien Harley from the Polonia club.

WHAT a fine gesture by the Australian Soccer Federation to recognise the services of Joe Watson.

Joe received a special gold plaque award at half-time of Sunday's match between the Socceroos and Czechoslovakia in recognition of the 44 appearances he made for Australia.

This award will be given to other players who reach a similar milestone.

But, this does not go far enough.

While they are at it, the ASF should also hand out special life-long admission passes, allowing any player who has represented Australia at Soccer free entry into any club or international fixture in the country.

There is nothing more degrading than watching a former Socceroo player waiting in a queue to buy a ticket for a game.

Surely, they deserve better than that.

IT did not take long for the Socceroos to find a nickname for Rod Woods, the efficient gear steward for the team.

Rod has been nicknamed Barney because of his striking resemblance to Barney Rubble of the Flintstones cartoon-fame.



PAUL WADE

GOOD to see our national coaches continually working together.

Last week when Frank Arok released Frank Farina from the Australian squad Arok gave the pardon, no questions asked.

Arok explained: "I was expecting Eddie Thomson to ask me whether I needed Farina for the International in Melbourne.

"I would not expect the Slickers to go into any match without two strikers of the calibre of John Kosmina and Farina. That's expecting far too much."

It worked out well for the Sydney City Slickers as Farina played a very important part in the win over Canterbury.



A giant striker playing in one of the SA country leagues is due in Adelaide to play next season.

He is wanted by former Socceroo Johnny Nyskohus for his State league club Beograd, but word is Adelaide City boss Zoran Matic, is also onto the potential of the youngster.

There could be a tug of war between the two former teammates at City for the front runner's signature.

Before he went back to City as coach Matic coached Beograd, where Nyskohus was seeing out his playing career.

■ ■ ■

AS if Blacktown City didn't have a surplus of injury worries. Now the unfortunate sickness that befalls Robbie Slater just hinders them even more.

Coach Casey De Bruin will be forced to continue to re-shuffle. Defenders Don McLeod and Peter Willis are out with long term injuries, Jeff Ainsworth faces suspension, Joe Carroll and Joe Bradley are carrying niggling injuries and Darren Northam is in the Australian Youth squad.

The Demons are minus a lot of talent.

TASSIE'S STATE PLAY-OFFS

AS the League competition comes to a close in Northern Tasmania, other Soccer competitions will begin.

The Honeychurch Cup competition will begin on August 2.

The Cup competition is being sponsored by the Northern State League sponsors, Honeychurch Insurance Brokers P/L.

Also in the process of being finalised will be a Statewide play-off competition whereby the top four in the Northern State League and the top four in the Southern State League combine to play for the State title.

The State title was won by Juventus-Pioneer last year. They took it from Georgetown in a two-match play-off.

The Night Series Cup, played for each year at Devonport, will also take place, commencing on September 2.

— JOHN TSCHEPERA

SYDNEY CITY are the team no-one would ever dare to write off.

After, by their standards, an awful start to the season, Eddie Thomson's side has worked its way diligently back to fourth spot in the Northern Division.

'ET' himself is confident that if his side make the top five for the semi-final play-offs they can win the grand final.

"Even if we retain our current position I feel we are good enough to win the play-off series from fifth place. As long as we make the semi-finals, that's what counts," says Thomson.

Thomson is also delighted with the form shown by teenage goalkeeper Brett Hughes.

■ ■ ■

HE'S saying nothing at this stage, but it could be Graham Honeyman's last season on the national scene, even if Adelaide Hellas does stay in the competition.

Word from two State League clubs is that the class sweeper will join one of them for a final fling next year when hangs up his boots.

is all patched up as he

SOCCEROO midfielder KENNY MURPHY is now the elder statesman of the Australian midfield.

Says the South Melbourne man: "It feels strange. The parrot's not following me anymore."

Murphy was referring to his close friend and former team-mate Joe Watson, whose international career ended when Australia's World Cup campaign ended last year.

"Things have certainly changed in a short time," says Murphy.

Now 30, he's not looking past the Olympic Games qualifying rounds to be played in February, 1988.

This concept, according to Mr Labbozzetta, will go ahead in spite of the complaints being made from so many sources.

Under the proposed format, which was agreed to last year by 20 of the 24 teams, a total of 10 clubs from the Northern and Southern Division will be relegated at the end of the season and the remaining 14 sides will form a super league.

This concept, according to Mr Labbozzetta, will go ahead in spite of the complaints being made from so many sources.

"The last message I received was a telex on the Thursday confirming that all but two of their senior players would arrive on Saturday. The two players were stuck in Holland and would be here a couple of days later," Emery said.

Emery said the Czechs had planned initially to arrive on Wednesday but there was a hitch with visas. "There is no Australian consulate in Czechoslovakia and everything had to be fixed up in Poland.

"The final arrangement was that they would stop over in Belgrade and catch a Yugoslavian Airline flight and be here on Saturday morning," he concluded.

KENNY MURPHY (left)

NEWCASTLE Rosebud has bit the bullet and settled for more 7pm kick-offs for their NSL games, with Youth League at 5pm. They will be using their powerful floodlighting installation to its fullest. Future games are Sat August 23 v Blacktown City and Sat August 30 v Canterbury. On Sunday Sept 14 they meet St George with 1pm and 3pm starts.

RE-BUILDING A NATIONAL TEAM — BY A WHOLE SERIES OF 'BLOCKS'

ALTHOUGH the famous Josef Masopust was the official coach of the Czechoslovakian team during their three match Test series against the Winfield Socceroos, the real power behind the throne in the Europeans' set-up was their former veteran mentor Vaclav Jezek.

The 62 year old Jezek, who came here as 'technical adviser' with the Czechs, was the man who guided them to their magnificent win in the European Championships in 1976.

He is a coach of great experience and indeed the present 'godfather' of Czech coaching.

The Czech football authorities 'placed' Jezek alongside Masopust, to guide him and help prepare the national team for the coming European Championships.

Jezek was born at Zvolen, a small town in Slovakia and began his playing career as an attacking centre half before switching to the midfield.

During his career, he played for Czech first division clubs SK Hradec Kralove and Slavia Liberec.

He began his coaching career with Slavia Liberec and after a spell at Locomotiva Ceska Lira became the youth coach of the Dukla Prague club.

In 1963, he became coach of Sparta Prague, guiding them to two championships and one cup win.

His coaching dexterity was such that he then

went to Holland for three years as boss of the FC Den Haag club.

REBUILDING

Jezek returned to Czechoslovakia in 1972, where he was given task of rebuilding the Czech national team which culminated in winning the 1976 European Championships.

Former Socceroo boss Joe Venglos then took over the reigns of the national team organisation.

But now, after the Czech's failure to qualify for the recent World Cup Final series held in Mexico, the vast knowledge of this outstanding veteran coach is again being used to help rebuild the national team into a force to be reckoned with.

Jezek, who knows all there is to know about the strengths and shortcomings of Czech football at international level, adapted a plan, 'The Block System', in 1972, to get the best out of his players in the national arena.

This system has now been re-introduced into the Czech national team

set-up and was the style used against the Winfield Socceroos.

At club level in Czechoslovakia, the slow, short passing game is prevalent and it is known throughout Europe as 'street football'.

Nowadays, in the robust tempo of the international arena, this style is completely non-effective.

THE BLOCK

It was because of this fact way back in 1972, that coach Jezek introduced his now famous 'block system', which is based on the counter-attacking system of play.

It is also a style that is fully understood by the Czech players, who are of course, brought up on the short passing game in their domestic club competition.

The first thing that coach Jezek emphasises to his players is that, when they attack and create opportunities, the defensive players in the team must at all times move forward in support.

His theory is: 1. By the Czech defence moving forward it removes the danger away from their goal, and because of the present offside laws, any opposition attackers who do not react as quickly as their defenders cannot therefore take part in a counter-attack, if possession of the ball is lost by the Czechs.

2. By moving the defence upfield as a 'block', the creation of a

gap between defence and attack is prevented and the team stays compact. And, in such a situation and being in close support to their attacking players, everyone in the defensive block is in a position to go forward and join in the attack, when the opportunity arises.

This was very evident in their play against the Winfield Socceroos.

This system also places great importance on the midfield combination and indeed makes the midfield the most important unit in the Czech setup.

And, anyone who watched the Czechs in action, will no doubt verify the fact that it was their midfield who held all the keys in their system.

TEAM PLAY

It also places an emphasis on 'team play' rather than individual brilliance. Again this was a characteristic of the Czech performances during their visit here.

Like our own Socceroo set-up, the physical condition of the players plays a big part in the Czech tactical planning and they were a very fit side.

They proved this beyond all doubt in the first match at Olympic Park, Melbourne, where they held the Socceroos to a 1-1 draw after stepping off the plane only hours before the kickoff.

Despite this long journey, they came up as fresh as new bread,

which more than proved the value of the hard physical work they had previously gone through on the training track.

I talked with the 'Old Czech Maestro' during the series and he was keen to divulge the secret of his beloved 'block system'.

"To start with, when I was given the task of rebuilding the national team in 1972, I had to find or devise a style of play to get the best out of the players at my disposal," he told me.

"In doing this, I had to take everything into consideration, especially the type of football they played at club level.

"After great deliberation, I came up with the 'block system', which I am thoroughly convinced is the one best suited for us.

"Our players are all highly skilled and there is no worry on this score.

"However their fitness had to be improved upon for international duty, if the system was to be successful.

"Again this proved no problem, and all it amounted to was plenty of hard work.

"Speed is also vital in our set-up.

"Speed not only in running, but in thinking, to be able to mount and press home attacks, quickly.

"I also emphasised that short passing had to be kept to a minimum if we were to succeed and the use of the long ball to switch play was essential."

Indeed, it was this ability to switch play in such an expert fashion, that caused most trouble in the Socceroo ranks against the tourists.

"I also believe in using the flanks to great advantage, as this is where the most space is, in present day football," he continued.

"On the flanks it is possible to stretch the opposing defence and create gaps elsewhere in their defensive set-up.

"We attempt to do this by going around an opponent's line of defence, rather than going through it.

"I am also convinced that it is better to use two men working together on the wings, rather than one, against a full back, and this is how we try and operate.

"In the 'block system' it is necessary to get a block of seven or eight players back in defence when a team is pressurised.

"Then when in possession, turn the midfield into a block of up to eight players, with the next step being an attacking block of six to eight players around the opposition penalty area.

"Although it sounds difficult, it is not and it is a style of play our players understand and can execute.

"The workrate of our national team is much higher than that in Czech club football and indeed it must be, if the system is to work correctly.



THIS week
TOM ANDERSON
goes behind the scenes to dissect the Czech's team system.

"This is why we need our national team players in training camps at every opportunity.

"By constant repetition in being coached and playing and training in blocks we gained success in 1976. I am convinced this success can again be obtained by our present side.

"But, of course, everything hinges on the players' ability to adapt their style while on national team duty.

"Their willingness to accept and play this 'block system', rather than being individuals is gratifying.

"We all want success in the international arena and are all prepared to work hard to get it."

So there you have it, the 'Jezek' Czech Masterplan' used against the Winfield Socceroos...and ready to be put into operation in the coming European Championships that kick off next month.

ADELAIDE HELLAS TO GO THROUGH HELL OR HIGH WATER AT HINDMARSH

IT'S make or break time for Adelaide Hellas tomorrow night when it takes on Southern Division leader Footscray at Hindmarsh Stadium.

BY TOM MCKAIN

With only six round to play the chips are down with the SA side, champions in 1977, precariously placed in eighth place — on 13 points two behind Preston and five adrift of sixth-placed George Cross.

Hellas, and Adelaide City, then Adelaide Juventus, were two of the initial national leaguers back in 1977, and now Hellas is in danger, despite its title win, of going down the gurgler and missing the super league next year.

And tomorrow's game is against a side which has done very little to set the league alight over the last nine years.

But this season, after the announcement of the "new" 14-team league for 1987, the Melbourne club has charged into the lime-light — after being thrashed 7-1 by Adelaide City in SA in the second round of the season.

a crack in Footscray have appeared with Melbourne Juventus taking over the lead on goal difference with the pair on 24 points.

But under new coach Dragoslav Sekularac there is no doubt Footscray has shattered most teams in the division, but the question being asked is — will Sekularac, imported from Yugoslavia along with key players, remain in Australia next year?

Word is he will accept a coaching position in Greece and at least three of his imports will return to Yugoslavia.

But that is of little consolation to Hellas, battling on under their new boss, Edmund Kreft, who was called in to do a rescue operation after Hellas and Neil McGachey parted company mid-season.

The recent shocking Adelaide weather could play a part in the result, with most teams having had to play on quagmires, and in heavy or

drizzling rain.

And Hindmarsh Stadium was churned up by the Czechs and Socceroos followed by a local league game last Saturday.

While front-runners George Konstantopoulos and Gary Ward have scored goals this season, they have yet to

hit the jackpot together.

Coach Kreft will be hoping the scoreboard lights up tomorrow night.

While derby matches always take on a special flavor, the Adelaide encounter in round 19 will have special significance

with Adelaide City possibly sounding the death knell of their local rivals if Hellas don't pick up points over the next few weeks.

But which ever way you look at it, there is going to be a storming finish to the Southern and Northern Divisions.

CHRIS MANOU ... triumphant.



POLAK TARGETS FOR YOUNG Socceroos

A second half burst which featured two goals from Jason Polak of the Australian Institute of Sport carried Australia's Young Socceroos to a 6-1 win over the touring Czechoslovakian Youth team at Perry Park on Wednesday night.

The win followed up a 3-0 victory down in Hobart on the Monday night and gave the phlegmatic Les Scheinfug something to secretly smile about.

Lou Hristodoulou, the only survivor of the 1985 Youth team started things rolling with a splendid volley about the halfway mark in the first half.

The pressure went on after the break with those Polak goals. Also chiming in were John Markovski and David Schute.

Czechoslovakia's Richard Margolius added an own goal to help Australia's tally, with Frantisek Hales scoring his team's lone goal.

From the Hobart game Scheinfug proved

that he can look with confidence to the displays of striker Scott Ollerenshaw and midfielder Jason van Blerk in future.

Although it is unfortunate that the quality of play is not matched by the attendances at these youth internationals, Hobart did well to produce a good crowd to support their national team.



LOU HRISTODOULOU

ASW'S JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

YOUR CLUB'S FUTURE MATCHES

THE intriguing run for the winning post is on in both divisions of the league.

ASW has listed all 24 clubs, with rounds 18-22 showing future opponents and whether the matches are home and away.

Some clubs have tough opponents, others the opposite and then there are the in-betweens.

You can put your estimate of two points for a win and one for a loss against the games and add present points and those that could come from Wednesday night's deferred matches to

come up with your dip for the season.

Some clubs are as good as home for the 14 team league for next season, some in doubt and others will be back in State Leagues. Ten clubs will miss the cut-off mark.

Under the NSL scheme clubs receive 50 points for winning their division, dropping back by 4.1667 points for each place below first.

Added to that are fast performance and 1986 crowd points.

Then the first 14 clubs make the grade.

NORTHERN DIVISION

APIA-LEICHARDT

- v Canberra (h)
- v Wollongong (a)
- v Marconi (h)
- v Blacktown (a)
- v Canterbury (h)

BLACKTOWN CITY

- v St George (a)
- v Newcastle (a)
- v Syd Croatia (a)
- v APIA-Leichhardt (h)
- v Syd Olympic (a)

CANBERRA CITY OL

- v APIA-Leichhardt (a)
- v Syd. Olympic (h)
- v Syd. City (h)
- v Wollongong (a)
- v Marconi (h)

CANTERBURY MARR.

- v Inter-Monaro (a)
- v St George (h)
- v Newcastle (a)
- v Syd Croatia (h)
- v APIA-Leichhardt (a)

INTER-MONARO

- v Canterbury (h)
- v Sydney City (a)
- v St George (a)
- v Newcastle (h)
- v Syd. Croatia (a)

MARCONI

- v Newcastle (a)
- v Syd Croatia (h)
- v APIA-Leichhardt (a)
- v Syd Olympic (h)
- v Canberra (a)

NEWCASTLE

- v Marconi (h)
- v Blacktown (h)
- v Canterbury (h)
- v Inter-Monaro (a)
- v St George (h)

ST GEORGE

- v Blacktown (h)
- v Canterbury (a)
- v Inter-Monaro (h)
- v Syd. City (h)
- v Newcastle (a)

SYDNEY CITY

- v Syd. Olympic (a)
- v Inter Monaro (h)
- v Canberra (a)
- v Newcastle (h)
- v Syd. Croatia (a)

SYDNEY CROATIA

- v Wollongong (h)
- v Marconi (a)
- v Blacktown (h)
- v Canterbury (a)
- v Inter Monaro (h)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

- v Sydney City (h)
- v Canberra (a)
- v Wollongong (h)
- v Marconi (a)
- v Blacktown (h)

WOLLONGONG CITY

- v Syd. Croatia (a)
- v APIA-Leichhardt (h)
- v Syd. Olympic (a)
- v Canberra (h)

SOUTHERN DIVISION

ADELAIDE CITY

- v Brisbane City (h)
- v West Adelaide (a)
- v Green Gully (h)
- v Brunswick (a)
- v Heidelberg (h)

ADELAIDE HELLAS

- v Brisbane Lions (a)
- v Adelaide City (h)
- v S. Melbourne (a)
- v Melb. Croatia (h)
- v Sunshine (a)

BRISBANE CITY

- v Adelaide City (a)
- v S. Melbourne (h)
- v Melb. Croatia (a)
- v Sunshine (h)
- v Preston (a)

BRISBANE LIONS

- v Adelaide H. (h)
- v Green Gully (a)
- v Brunswick (h)
- v Heidelberg (a)
- v Footscray (h)

BRUNSWICK U.J.

- v Heidelberg (a)
- v Footscray (h)
- v Brisbane Lions (a)
- v Adelaide City (h)
- v S. Melbourne (a)

FOOTSCRAY

- v Melb. Croatia (a)
- v Heidelberg (h)
- v Sunshine (a)
- v Footscray (a)
- v Brisbane City (h)

MELB. CROATIA

- v Preston (h)
- v Sunshine (a)
- v Brisbane City (h)
- v West Adelaide (a)
- v Green Gully (h)

PRESTON

- v Melb. Croatia (a)
- v Heidelberg (h)
- v Sunshine (a)
- v Footscray (a)
- v Brisbane City (h)

S. MELBOURNE

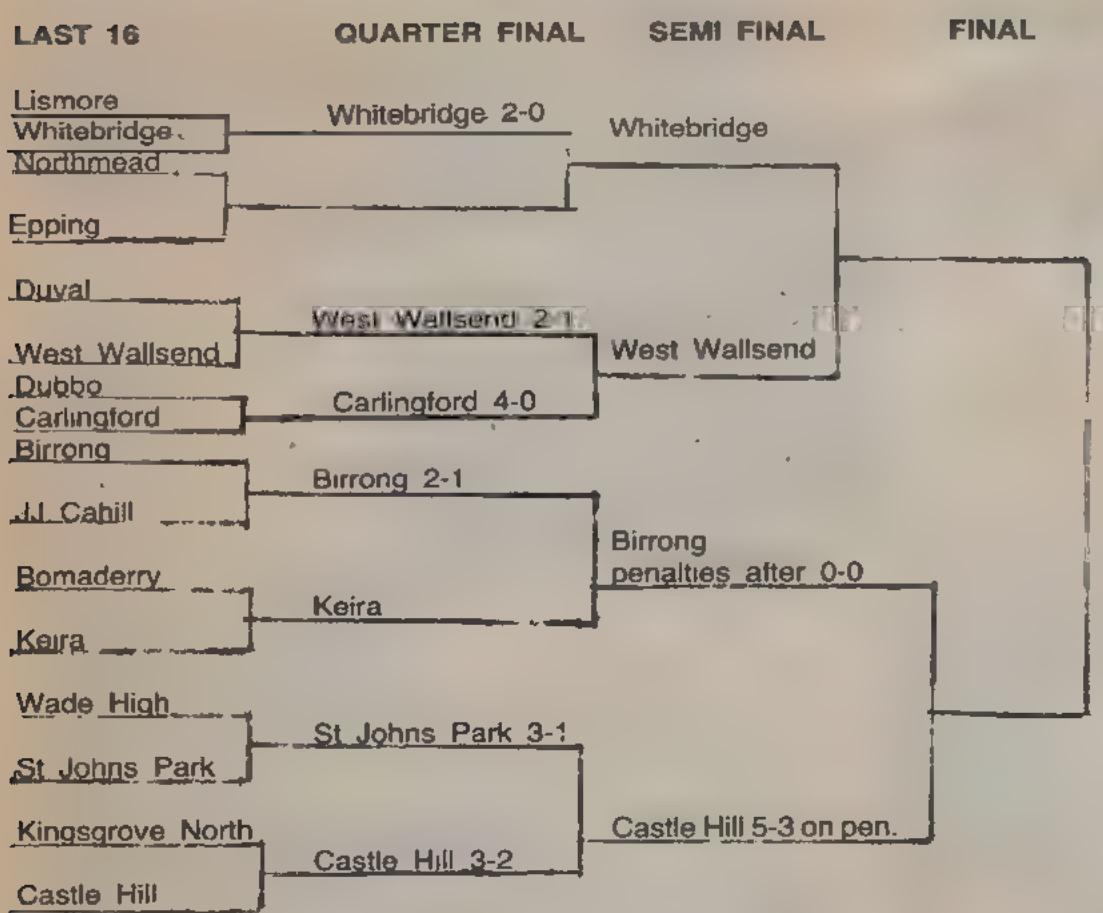
- v Sunshine (h)
- v Brisbane City (a)
- v Adelaide Hellas (h)
- v Green Gully (a)
- v Brunswick (h)

SUNSHINE

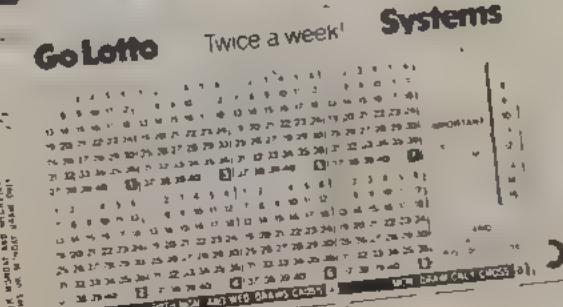
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- v Melb. Croatia (h)
- v Preston (h)
- v Brisbane City (a)
- v Adelaide Hellas (h)

1986 COMMONWEALTH BANK SOCCER CUP

FINAL 16



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**SOCEROO SPONSORSHIP
COULD LEAD TO OTHER
IMPORTANT VENUES**

In this Issue
JOHNNY WARREN
advocates use of
various cities
for the
Socceroos

ONE hopes that Winfield, the ASF's liberal sponsors, will bring some power to bear on the staging of future international matches played in this country.

In particular, I am talking about the Socceroos appearing in centres other than the traditional Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide circuit that has become the norm in recent times.

Just over 6,000 fans paid to see the Socceroo and Czechoslovakia match in Melbourne. The total attendances for Adelaide and Sydney as well as Melbourne cannot be regarded as huge.

But the purpose of this piece is not purely a criticism of crowds drawn to International games in these centres.

Australian Soccer and its Socceroos need to be taken to the public and for me that means a better deal for other areas, and especially Canberra, which boasts the finest stadium in Australia and some of the best attendances at International matches.

But I am not just looking at major cities for future internationals.

I am sure a centre like Townsville or Orange, where an International would be greeted with open arms, would be a huge success as it would be one of the major sporting events on the local calendar, if not the major one.

The other big plus to Australian Soccer from taking the game to other centres is that the match could then be televised live to the rest of Australia, rather than replayed at 10.30 in the evening as it is now.

Bigger crowds, live television viewed by substantially large audiences, and promotion of the games in other areas are the three main reasons I hope the ASF and Winfield consider when they are drawing up future International itineraries for visiting teams.

that there is still room for improvement."

The young Socceroos began Saturday night's game appearing to be capable of carrying on from where they left off at Perry Park.

But after the Australians had muffed several early chances through a variety of errors the Czechs began to gain confidence and ended the match in command.

Ivan Hasek gave the visitors a half-time lead before Frantisek Halas struck in the 65th and 70th minutes of the second half.

Marek Trval then completed the scoring in the 77th minute.

But seven minutes before the end Hasek spoiled his performance when he received the red card from referee Gary Power.

14

ABRUPT END TO CLEAN SWEEP BID

THE YOUNG Socceroos' expectations of a clean sweep in the three match international series against Czechoslovakia came to an abrupt end in Newcastle on Saturday night.

BY DAVE WILLIAMS

australian net without reply.

That result however may well have been a blessing in disguise for the Australian coach, Les Scheinflug.

Before the Newcastle game, Scheinflug told ASW that his team had done exceptionally well with so little time to

prepare.

"We did not know what to expect from the Czechs and they have been worthy opponents.

"They are a big team physically but our speed, skills and teamwork have all been there," he said.

With the series wrapped up in Brisbane Scheinflug made five changes to his team for Newcastle and as he said after the match: "I learned something tonight. Everyone in the squad had to have his chance and it is obvious

CROATIA DEAKIN SOCCER CLUB

Sunday August 17 v Weston Creek, Waramanga Oval
Sunday August 24 v Canberra City Olympians, Deakin Oval

Sunday August 31 v Kambah, Deakin Oval
Sunday Sept 7 v Narrabundah, away
Sunday Sept 14 v Juventus Deakin Oval

Croatia Deakin proudly sponsored by
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Saturday September 20
at Croatia Deakin Soccer Club

MISS CROATIA BALL

Tickets are available at club — 062 81 6962

CITY'S TOUGH JOB AGAINST CROATIA

By JOHN ECONOMOS

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS have a tough job ahead of them tomorrow night when they face Sydney Croatia at the Bruce Stadium for their deferred match in the NSL.

In fact, their task will be of a herculean nature as the boys from the ACT have to play no fewer than four matches over 10 days.

They played Canterbury last Sunday, back up tomorrow night against Sydney Croatia then play Apia next Sunday.

They then have to saddle up again and travel to Adelaide for their Nanda Soccer Cup semi-final clash against Adelaide Hellas.

Canberra last Sunday played a scoreless draw against the visiting Canterbury Marrickville Olympic.

But it was the same old story for the NSL side from the National Capitol.

Territorially they dominated the match but could not nail home their created chances.

Right back Jason Dunne will be available for selection tomorrow night after missing Sunday's match through injury.

But Dunne won't have it all his own way as his young protégé, Peter Mazis, had an ex-

cellent match and will fight to retain his shirt.

Canberra must do a lot more than last Sunday if they have aspirations of taking anything away from Sydney Croatia.

Tommy Sermanni, Canberra's skipper, was solid last Sunday as he tried to wheel his team around into victory.

Much will depend on Canberra's spectacular play-maker, South American Augusto Palacios, who more than once has laid the foundation for a Canberra victory.

Canberra City will have back in goals, their champion custodian, Anthony Franken, released from the Australian squad now that the series against Czechoslovakia has been completed.

Steve Bryant, Canberra's coach, is expected to select the following line-up for the match.

Franken: Mazis, Harkins, Byrne, Cant: Sermanni, Hamilton, Bryant: Phillips, Palacios, Gibson.



VEDRAN ROZIC-SYDNEY CROATIA's Captain-Sweeper.



Augusto Palacios.

MARCONI v ST GEORGE



★★★★★ NIGHT MATCH ★★★★★

7.30PM

WED 13th AUGUST



LES SCHEINFUG



ROD BROWN



DAVID LOWE



DAVID RATCLIFFE



JOHN O'SHEA



MICHAEL O'SHEA

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SYDNEY OLYMPIC v APIA



SIMPLE WAYS WITH SEAFOOD

with compliments from



GARY PHILLIPS

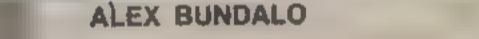


Peter Raskopoulos, skipper.

TOMORROW NIGHT AT ST GEORGE STADIUM AT 7.30PM



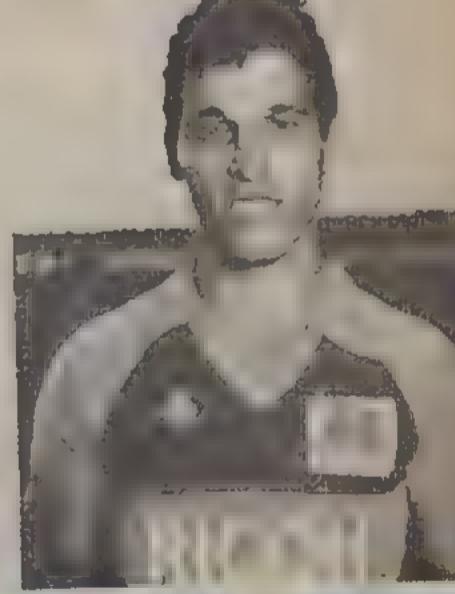
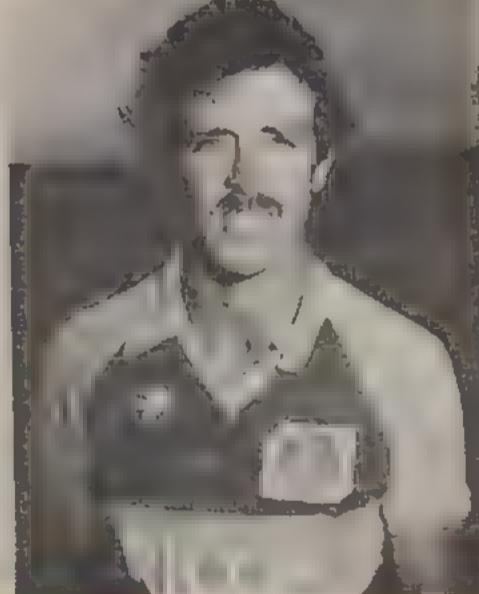
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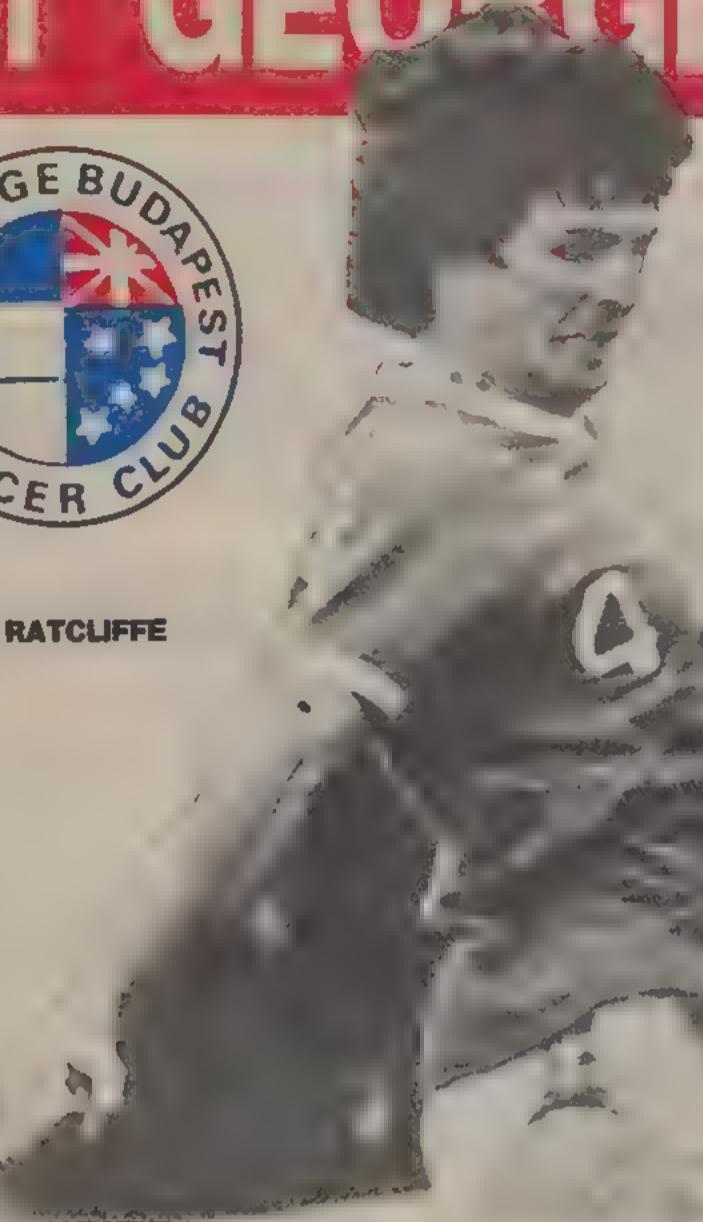
DE COSTI BROS. SEAFOOD

ST GEORGE STADIUM DOUBLE HEADER

ST GEORGE v BLACKTOWN CITY



DAVID RATCLIFFE



SUNDAY AT 1PM
ROUND 18



ROBBIE SLATER



TERRY GREEDY



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SYDNEY OLYMPIC v SYDNEY CITY

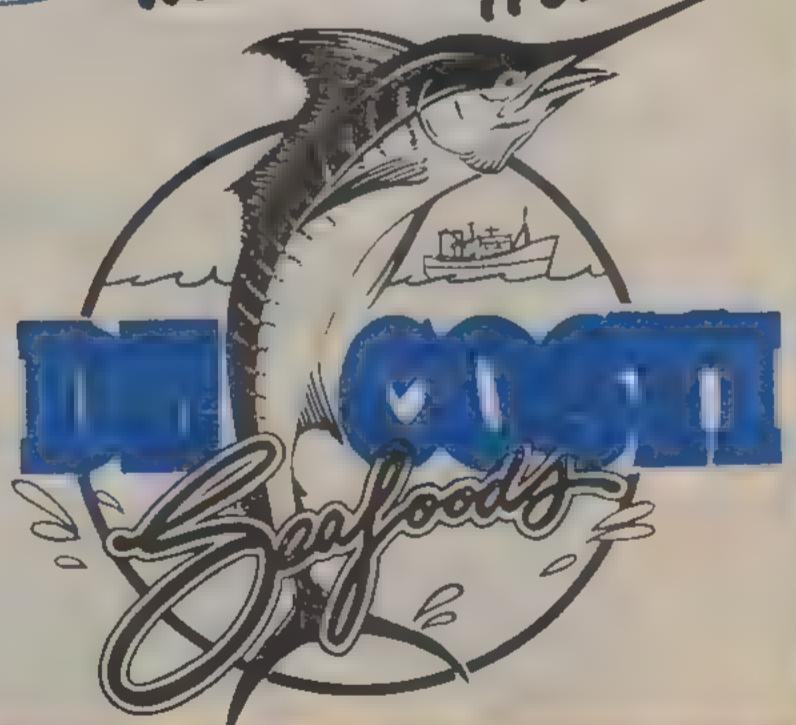
VICENTE ESTAVILLO



SUNDAY AT 3PM
ROUND 18



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MATIGNY



S/O Sponsored by De Costi Seafoods

The State League Story



TNT SKYPAK THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

SATURDAY 16th AUGUST

STATE LEAGUE 2nd DIVISION

Nth Bankstown vs Kingsford Hellenic
Blacktown United vs Dee Why

STATE LEAGUE 3rd DIVISION

Rooty Hill vs Nth Ryde RSL
West United vs Bondi Marine
Granville Chile vs Moorebank
King Tomislav vs Port Hacking

SUNDAY 17th AUGUST

STATE LEAGUE 1st DIVISION

Fairy Meadow vs Melita Eagles
Warringah F/Water vs Uruguayan Auburn
Ku-ring-gai vs Manly Warringah
Avala vs Sutherland
Polonia vs Rockdale Linden
Wollongong vs Penrith City

STATE LEAGUE 2nd DIVISION

Gl'ville Hornsby vs Canterbury & Dist
Bankstown Lebanon vs Queens Park
SSC Yugal vs Bathurst '75
Campbelltown vs Artarmon

STATE LEAGUE 3rd DIVISION

Pork Hacking vs Campbelltown
Baulkham Hills vs Mt Druitt Town
King Tomislav vs Uni of NSW

Potts Pk
Francis Pk

Cawarra Pk
Harold Read Res
Garside Pk
Croatian S/C

Corrimal Mem Pk
Narrabeen F/C
Parklands Oval
Knight Pk
Chopin Pk
Berkeley S/Ground

Pioneer Pk
Jensen Oval
Blick Oval
Lynwood Park

Seymour Shaw Pk
Ted Horwood Res
Croatian S/G

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER BATTLES HARD IN A CHECKERED CAREER

WARRINGAH Freshwater got on the track early in the season with a 5-3 win over powerful Rockdale Linden, after being down 3-2 at one stage.

BY KEITH GILMOUR

through, but there was insufficient finance to guarantee progress.

Long-serving Manly-Warringah district official Jim Scane jumped in to help president Hens Boschieter, manager Ziv Naprta and the rest of the committee.

He did it because he believes that the Freshwater club were penalised unduly by being suspended from Manly-Warringah Soccer Association due to an incident over the actions of a spectator.

"I was one of the people who stood up for the club. The case involving the person finally came up and he was ruled 'not guilty'.

"Meanwhile the club was out and many of their members moved in to give new life to Warringah," he said.

Scane had for 17 years been a director of Manly-Warringah SFC, including a two year spell as president.

His experience in the administration of Federation clubs has been of great assistance in handling the Warringah Freshwater affairs.

Home ground is the Narrabeen Fitness Camp ground, but where there is a clash with athletics Soccer has to give way.

After a deal of negotiating Warringah Freshwater secured three dates on the Manly Warringah complex at Cromer Park.

The Manly Warringah licensed club, which so far has not had the aimed for success, benefits from the arrangement.

Meanwhile the club's battle for a top six position in State League has been wavering.

But the committee remain as keen as ever to play in the best level of football that it can.



Warringah coach FIL BOTTALICO holds high the Bisleri Cup, after a win by APIA 21 years ago.

Continued from
Page 11

Scheinflug looking at the series overall gave the most praise to Kurt Reynolds, Lou Hristodoulou, Jason Polak, Jason Van Blerk and

Darren Northam.

Scheinflug and his Czech counterpart Jan Skripko said that the Macquarie Field arena despite a week of rain was the best on which the teams had played during the series.

THE PLAYERS ARE THERE BUT WILL THE RESULTS COME

PLAYERS of the calibre of Richie Bourke from Sydney Olympic and Martin Driene, on loan from Marconi, were recruited this year to strengthen Warringah Freshwater.

Somehow they have had to face up to an ordinary season to date.

Their real potential turned up with that memorable win over Wollongong Macedonia.

Former Soccer defender Stan Ackerley began as coach but he only stayed for a month.

The club then recruited big Fil Bottalico, whose period with APIA-Leichhardt in the NSL had ended the previous year.

BY KEITH GILMOUR

Fil had had plenty of time in the State League with the former North Sydney Inter, as well as having been a punishing midfielder in APIA's golden years.

Under his care the team recorded four wins and a draw before they dropped back into the bunch.

It is a daunting task to face up to Manly, Melita, Sutherland and then Auburn in the run home, but that is the

task that the club faces.

Warringah's saddest episode this year was to lose defender Jay O'Rorke due to injuries sustained in a very bad motor accident.

Jay has spent a long period in the Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick.

The club has been well supplied with goalkeepers.

Dave Bowman has regained his confidence, Bottalico has also used Don Smith and Tony Musumeci.

Musumeci, rated top player in the last NSW Ethnic Cup, has been brilliant when he came up from the reserves.

Although short in height for a keeper his great reflexes and clearances have been a feature of his play.

Glen Sterrey has had some great games in central defence where he has definitely been the anchor man.

Frank Sperenza, a former APIA player, has done well after coming up from the reserves to play striker.

Other former APIA players include Jim Bottalico and Frank Cassachia whilst big Alex Bottalico had some time with Sydney City and a short spell at Blacktown City.

Amongst the other players are the experienced Mike Berry as well as Peter Tkackuk, formerly with Ku-ring-gai, and also Gary Duckling and Dennis Corrigan.



STATE LEAGUE ROUND UP

CLUBS PREPARE FOR STATE LEAGUE SHAKE-UP

AS the 1986 season races towards its climax, the NSW State League clubs are readying themselves for yet another shake-up of the competition structure.

Some major changes certainly lie ahead due to the reduction in NSL membership.

Earlier this year, a meeting of the NSW Soccer Federation First Division Committee resolved to merge the top eight teams from the 1986 State League with the teams relegated from the NSL Northern Division to comprise a revamped State League in 1987.

Making way for the NSL teams will be the four bottom placed State League teams, which will drop into the Second Division.

At the meeting, it was also resolved to include one team each from the ACT and Northern NSW in the League should Canberra City and Newcastle Rosebuds fail to secure places in the reformed NSL.

This would broaden the scope of the State League and make it a genuine state-wide competition.

The clubs reaffirmed this plan at a meeting on August 4.

A special general meeting of the Council of the NSW Soccer Federation is due to ratify the proposal today (August 12).

However, the details of the revised State League structure are still a bit hazy.

For a start, it is still unclear whether four, five or six teams will be relegated from the NSL.

If six teams are axed — which seems most likely at this stage — then the NSW competition will comprise three divisions of 14 teams, rather than the existing three divisions of 12 teams.

If less than six teams are dropped, then a different structure will need to be selected.

In addition, there still appears to be some haggling as to whether the top second division team will be promoted or not.

While the First Division clubs oppose this proposal, the second division clubs believe it only fair for the Division's premiers to play off against the fifth last (i.e. seventh) placed team in division one.

It seems that promotion and relegation between divisions two and three will continue.

Underlying all this uncertainty is the widely held belief that the proposed amalgamation of the NSL is doomed due to the lack of finances of

STATE STORY

P 2



TONY OSHANA:



BOBBY PAGANO

ASW'S STATE LEAGUE CORRESPONDENT STEVE SHELDON SUMS UP 1987 PLANNING

the competing clubs.

This is certainly not the first time that the State League clubs have had to compensate for the changing format of the NSL.

While the clubs seem to be taking it on the chin — reportedly because it is in the interests of the game — some grumblings have been heard.

Melita president, Lawrie Dimech: "The State League clubs have shown foresight and been unselfish for the sake of Soccer. Our clubs volunteered to go down and that was a very hard decision to make."

Ku-ring-gai president, Don Allen agreed: "The State League clubs have bent over backwards to be co-operative — much more than anyone had a right to expect. But our problem is that we have had no positive indication from the NSL as to how many national

league teams will be dropping down. The rest of Soccer seems to exist for the sake of the NSL."

Sutherland President, Peter Gray, went a step further. "We don't need the NSL clubs — they need us. If they don't tell us soon what they plan to do next year, then we should tell them to go jump."

"I think that with the way things stand, this whole issue could blow up. As the bottom four become increasingly clear, some clubs could start to rethink their decision."

Vic Dalgleish, coach of struggling Penrith City, agreed but was philosophical. "The bottom four clubs might start to regret their decision, but if you make your bed then you have to lie in it," he said.

THIS year has seen one of the tightest competitions ever in the NSW State League but with only four games remaining the table has now been split most clearly into two groups of six.

BY STEVE SHELDON

At the top end are the six teams vying for semi-final spots: Manly, Melita, Sutherland, Ku-ring-gai, Wollongong Macedonia and Rockdale Linden.

Manly has relied on the unshakeable defence of Fraser Robin, John Dick, Peter Denis, Gary van Egmond and 'keeper Bob Catlin, who has conceded only nine goals all season.

And while the Manly attack has not been in devastating form, they've done enough to keep the team chugging along two points in front of second-placed Melita.

Manly has a relatively easy passage home with only Ku-ring-gai to play out of the top six teams and are firming as title favourites.

Biting at Manly's heels is the in-form Melita, also well placed to take out line honours.

According to Melita President, Lawrie Dimech, it has been a revolutionary year for the club.

A traditional reliance upon imported players has been replaced by a policy to draft local youth players into the first grade team.

Young player such as 'keeper Dragon Pupovac, Craig Williams and John Gregson have all thrived, while regulars like Ray Farrugia, Kenny Wilson and Greg McCoy have continued to provide the backbone of the team.

Melita has been playing some dazzling Soccer of late and an easy run home — with only top six team Wollongong to play — prompted Dimech to declare: "We won't lose another game."

YOUTH POLICY

Sutherland, lying one point adrift of Melita, has also been restocking its team with local youth and talented players like Craig Hill, Peter Terry

TNT SKYPAK STATE LEAGUE DIV 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manly	18	9	7	2	23	9	25
Melita	18	8	7	3	31	11	23
Sutherland	18	9	4	5	21	14	22
Ku-ring-gai	18	7	8	3	20	14	22
Wollongong	18	6	8	4	12	11	20
Rockdale	18	8	4	6	30	21	20
Auburn	18	4	9	5	14	18	17
Warringah F/W	18	7	3	8	29	31	17
Polonia	18	5	6	7	21	28	16
Avala	18	5	4	9	17	28	14
Penrith City	18	6	2	10	26	41	14
Fairy Meadow	18	2	2	14	17	35	6

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SMOKE BEGINS TO CLEAR IN CLOSE TITLE RACE



KEN WILSON — Melita steward

look doomed to relegation, but only three points separate the other five teams.

Penrith City, lying in second last place, has been the surprise packet of the second round with four wins, two draws and only one loss in the last seven games and it would be no shock to see the team make the cut-off.

Penrith is in for a hard finish with games against Wollongong, Melita and Rockdale and coach, Vic Dalgleish, was not willing to make predictions.

"All our games are cup ties," said Dalgleish. "But other teams are starting to fear us and we've gone on the attack."

Avala and Warringah Freshwater have suffered mid-season slumps while neither Auburn nor Polonia have set the world on fire this season.

One thing is certain, 1986 will conclude with a nail-biting finish in the battle to stave off the drop into a lower league.

A COACH FOR 1986 ADVERTISE WITH ASW

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ASW'S WRAP UP FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA

Illawarra Jottings

WITH PHIL MURPHY

COACH John Fleming isn't taking things easy at training with so much at stake for Wollongong City in the next few weeks.

On the week leading up to Saturday night's home game against Newcastle he staged a full-scale practice match under lights at Wollongong Showground.

The players didn't mind that at all but the problem was it poured rain right through the match.

Fleming's team played the Wolves' youth side because there were a few things the coach had to work out before taking on Newcastle.

With left full-back Jock Morlando suspended and midfielder Larry Gaffney out with a hamstring injury, Fleming had to play full-back himself.

Midfielder Bryan Cokely, taken to hospital with severe concussion during the previous game against St George, wasn't too keen about 90 minutes running around in the trial match against the youth team.

He indicated to Fleming he felt another bout of concussion coming on but that didn't work so he had to take the field.

○○○

Fairy Meadow might be on the bottom of the State League but one

player hasn't lost his sense of humour.

The club is doomed to relegation but the player said the officials are all smiling. "Think of the money they have saved this season," he said.

"Only two winning bonuses to hand out all year and when you're looking at more than \$70 a player that's a lot of money."

By contrast the club handed out a small fortune in winning bonuses last season and the team finished second to Canterbury, lost the grand final and had nothing to show for it.

To make matters worse 10 first grade players then transferred to other clubs.

○○○

An explosive situation could develop between champions Bulli and struggling Unanderra after an incident towards the end of their recent game at Elizabeth Park.

Bulli won the game 4-1 to take the title with three games in hand, but lost key midfielder or sweeper Ian Cirson after an over enthusiastic tackle by Unanderra full-back Mark Buckley.

Buckley was sent off

JOHN FLEMING HAS WOLVES HOWLING

after the foul.

Bulli club have claimed the tackle was premeditated and fired in a strong letter of protest to the Illawarra Association.

They claim the tackle resulted in Cirson having to have his leg placed in plaster after X-rays revealed a broken fibia.

It has been alleged that the Unanderra player meant to seriously injured Cirson after a number of earlier incidents in the game.

Bulli have claimed Buckley was shown a yellow card by referee Stephan Jaros and this meant he was automatically suspended for two weeks after passing the 12-point mark.

"We clearly heard him yell out to his bench to let him know when the game was almost over so he could get square," a Bulli official said.

"It was the most blatant act I have seen on a Soccer field and has effectively crippled Cirson for the rest of the season."

Another Bulli player said he felt sick at what he believes Buckley had done.

"The association talk about people being fined \$500 for bringing the game into disrepute so in my view they should make sure Buckley is punished," he said.

When Fernhill played

Bulli coach Norm Flanagan said some action should be taken over the incident because everyone at the ground knew what was going on.

Flanagan has lost midfielder Tony Charnock overseas for a month. Now Cirson is finished the team's chances in the top four series look shaky.

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Spare a thought for Oak Flats midfielder Mark Vinton, who has managed just two minutes in first grade with the club this season.

Vinton went back to his old club this year to help them out but injured a knee in the pre-season and eventually had a cartilage operation.

His long-awaited return came against competition leaders South Coast Croatia but after 120 seconds on the field he twisted the knee awkwardly and had to be helped off.

Things can only improve for Vinton.

○○○

Gerry Walker hasn't built up a reputation for screaming at his players but things could change.

One of the quiet men of Illawarra Soccer, the Fernhill coach may have to do a bit more yelling to get results.

"We had a top side last year and should have won the league but everything has gone

against us this season," he said.

"There has been a

change of coaches, se-

rious injuries and you

can add to that having to

bring some very good

young players up before

they were really ready

and this hasn't been fair

to them."

In the dressing room the players were told very, very clearly what was expected of them in the following 45 minutes.

"I've never heard anything quite like that from any coach let alone Gerry," one Fernhill official said after standing near the dressing room door.

It must have worked because Fernhill out-

classed Aris in the second half, won 3-0 and have their sights fixed on that important second placing behind Bulli.

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Talented Fairy Meadow centre-half and captain Larry Beringer may be playing with a Sydney club next season.

With Fairy Meadow doomed to second division Soccer in 1987, Beringer said he wouldn't like to drop back with them.

"I have come from district Soccer to try to make the grade in State League and would like to stay there," Beringer said.

Looking back on a dismal season, Beringer said there have been many contributing factors, the biggest being the loss of 10 first squad players at the end of last year.

"We had a top side last year and should have won the league but everything has gone

against us this season," he said.

"There has been a

change of coaches, se-

rious injuries and you

can add to that having to

bring some very good

young players up before

they were really ready

and this hasn't been fair

to them."

While Beringer hasn't had any success as a player this year he coaches the West-Fig-tree under 19 team in the ISA competition and they are poised to win the championship.

○○○

Mittagong All-Stars clinched the Illawarra second division title recently but the celebrations in Bowral Hotel that night were very subdued.

Two days before the game one of their star players, Todd Huchinson, died in a skiing accident.

Hutchinson, formerly with Wollongong City and Engadine Eagles, had been with All-Stars four seasons and was a very talented midfielder.

He had bought a magnum of champagne to help celebrate the title win and his wife, Robyn, attended the celebrations to open it.

"Robyn said Todd would have wanted it that way because he loved his Soccer and was looking forward to playing against Warilla Sports in the game we won 4-0 to finish up top," official Greg Lewis said.

Hutchinson went to the snow with his wife

on the week leading up to the game, and unfortunately died after crashing into a tree while skiing.

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Wollongong City assistant coach Glenn Fontana has certainly been among the goals as a player with first division club Balgownie this season.

Although he has missed some games he is the leading goalscorer and in the game against Coldeale he struck home a hat-trick.

In Premier League, Aris striker Steve Quinn is favoured to take the trophy as leading scorer but has been sideline with a knee injury.

While he was watching his team lose 3-0 to Fernhill his main rival Kevin Lewis narrowed the gap with two goals for Bulli against Unanderra.

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Aris and Bulli — last season's premiership grand finalists — will meet in the Bampton Cup final at Towradgi Park on August 31.

Aris had to go into extra time before getting on top of underdogs Oak Flats 4-1 after being a goal down early.

Bulli had another Premier League side, Fernhill, to contend with and got home 2-0.

Could it be the two teams could fight out both the Cup and league grand final this season?

○○○

Tasmania North

WITH JOHN TSCHEPPERA

SAWDON FAREWELLED BY GEORGETOWN VICTORY

GEORGETOWN overcame a determined Devonport 4-0 to give their player-coach, Peter Sawdon, a memorable farewell in the final Tasmanian State League North match of the season.

The first half opened at a blistering pace with Georgetown having the first opportunity to score when 'Port keeper, Stewart Mack, had to stretch for a cross-goal ball.

A piece of Devonport brilliant came in the 11th minute as Meldrum, Best, Pizzarani and McKenna combined with a string of first-time passes to eventually force a corner.

For most of the first half the combatants vied for supremacy and a breakthrough; this came to the 'Town in the 36th minute after a throw-in, which was helped on, allowed Hughes to snap-shoot it goalward.

Three minutes later Sawdon fought for possession of the ball in midfield and played a superb pass through to Gerry Farrell on the left. He ran onto it and drove it low past Mack into the far corner of the net.

Mack denied Sawdon

a goal as he dived to his left to hold a volley.

Georgetown struck again as Hughes got his second by blasting through a crowded penalty area after Devonport had failed to clear a corner.

Sawdon scored midway through the second half, but his well-executed lob was disallowed for offside.

Conrad Hughes registered his hat-trick, by courtesy of a Coogan cross.

With three minutes to go Frame had a chance to lessen the woes for Devonport but his shot was well covered by Carstens.

The 4-0 win ended a coaching era in Northern Tasmania for Sawdon who, the following day flew home in England.

After leaving Juventus, he coached Devonport to the 1983 State League North premiership, and followed this up by coaching George-

Tasmania South

WITH "VAN DIEMEN"

WHITE EAGLES and Croatia-Glenorchy remain locked together at the top of the Cadbury State League Soccer table after both won their 17th round matches.

White Eagles, which leads from Croatia on goal-difference, was by far the more convincing team, beating Howrah 4-1 at South Hobart, while Croatia only managed a 1-0 win over Rapid at the Athletic Centre.

Juventus-Pioneer displaced Olympia-WPL from third spot after it beat Caledonians 1-0 while Olympia could only draw 2-2 with bottom-side Metro-Clarendon.

Metro has now drawn level on nine points with second-last Rapid after gaining four out of a possible six points from its past three matches. It

4-0, Launceston United (Graccogna 2) d Riv Olympic (Stewart) 2-1, Croatia (Caddy 2, Morley, Bessell, Juhasz) d Western Subs. (Davis) 5-1, Juventus (Mies 2, Davidson 2, Rossi, Dennis) d Matric 6-0, Burnie (Luttmmer) dw Ulverstone (McGroarty) 1-1.

Ladder (after Rd 18):

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Georgetown	18	15	1	2	264	1131	
Ulverstone	17	14	2	1	158	930	
Juventus	18	14	0	4	460	1328	
Devonport	18	11	3	4	41	2125	
Croatia	18	8	0	9	94	3518	
Burnie	18	5	4	9	28	4114	
Matric	18	4	3	11	22	4211	
Laun. Utd	18	4	2	12	14	53	8
Riv Olympic	18	4	0	14	26	59	8
Western Subs.	17	0	3	14	10	76	3

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EAGLES — CROATIA LEAD

— STEVE DARBY OUTED

Caledonians rarely threatened the Juventus goal but it should have snatched at least a point when it was awarded a penalty in the 65th minute when Longo opened Schwaiger. Ronnie Bolton shot wide, however, to let the reigning champion off the hook.

Croatia made hard work of beating Rapid and it can thank substitute Billy Kirkpatrick for both points as he scored the only goal of the match and his first of the season minutes after coming on late in the game.

Anthony Greenwood, from the penalty spot, and Perry Forster gave Olympia a 2-0 lead against Metro but, with ten minutes remaining, Metro struck back twice to snatch a precious point as it crawled towards safety.

Steve Pitchford grabbed the first after switching from a defensive to an attacking role, and fullback Kevin Clamp hit the second near the end.

DARBY OFF

White Eagles had a few of its feathers ruffled despite a comfortable win over Howrah. Coach Steve Darby was sent from the coaches' bench by referee John Howlin, who

THE QUEENSLAND REPORT

With Greg Russell

NORTH STAR TRADITION FOR AMPOL FINAL

NORTH Star will attempt to win its third consecutive Queensland Ampol Cup this weekend and if past final performances are a guide, it is hard to predict how the match will unfold.

Last year North Star swept aside intermediate leaguers Sunnyside 5-0 in one of the most one-sided finals in years. But in their initial winning final in 1984, it was only a last minute snap goal from David Currie that won the cup for North Star 3-2 over Lions.

Some are saying the only remaining "different" way for North Star to take the prized statewide knockout trophy is to win it on penalties. And that could very well be the outcome when Iain Fagan's side takes on XXXX League leaders Coalstars in this weekend's final at Perry Park.

North Star are emerging from a mid-season slump while Coalstars have been slowly but surely edging their way towards the premiership flag. But North Star have a fine tradition for cup knockout football and ever Coalstars higher placing in the league will count for little.

If the semi-finals a month ago are an indication, Coalstars should start favourites. They swept aside Lions 4-1 in a convincing performance. North Star on the other hand only went through to the final on the strength of an own goal by Taringa's Dale Dawes, a former North Star trialist.

The Queensland Ampol Cup, now in its 27th year, had developed into the state's best loved Soccer tradition. The competition has grown in stature every season and this year carried total prizemoney of \$16,000 — including \$6000 for the winner.

Although North Star are shaping for their third consecutive win, they won't get to keep the prized trophy. Like the FA Cup, the QSF has ruled the Ampol Cup is perpetual.

And it is not the first time a club has gone for three in a row. The great Hellenic won the trophy

STATE STORY

P 4



QSF'S JAUNDICED EYE ON DEPARTURES TO NSW

THE Queensland Soccer Federation is likely to move to end a precedent which caused considerable embarrassment when the state's NSL clubs recently announced they were considering joining NSW's TNT Skypak League.

Although the proposal to join the NSW competition proved to be little more than a "furphy", the QSF had no comeback when Lions officials quoted an example of a NSW club playing in the Queensland competition.

Former Northern NSW State League side Kingscliff this season were permitted by the QSF to play in the Gold Coast's first division competition because it was logically more sensible than them travelling hundreds of kilometres south to play Lismore, Ballina and the like.

But the cross border precedent was set, much to QSF president Ian Brusasco's annoyance.

Queensland NSL officials claimed that if the Kingscliff case was permitted then there should be no barring them taking a position in the NSW competition.

But the whole idea of Brisbane City and Lions entering NSW's Premier competition has now fallen by the wayside after a clarification by NSW president John Constantine.

Constantine claimed that Lions and City had

read too much into informal discussions.

Constantine said that the inclusion of City and Lions in Skypak League would be considered, if there was no extra cost to current league members, but more importantly, if the approach for the revolutionary move was made by the Queensland Soccer Federation.

In their excitement to be part of a competition which could involve up to six former NSL sides — and offers direct promotion back into the national league — the two Brisbane clubs tended to forget the last condition.

The proposal was announced in a blaze of headlines in Brisbane and caught the QSF off-guard.

Brusasco has long awaited the return to the QSF's XXXX League of the two NSL sides and was angered that City and Lions were looking elsewhere.

Commenting on the initial report, Brusasco slammed Constantine for unfairly dangling the direct return to the NSL carrot in front of the Queensland sides.

"Promotion back into

the national league is Queensland's right, not just Brisbane City and Lions'," Brusasco said after reading the initial reports.

But phone calls between the two state supremos later in the day clarified the situation and restored interstate relations. Constantine stressed that he had reiterated to the two Queensland clubs that the idea of their inclusion in the Skypak League had no been considered, but if the QSF made an approach, the idea would be investigated.

"I told them twice an approach would have to come through the Queensland Soccer Federation," Constantine said.

That would never be on, but all the same, the QSF now seems likely to end the embarrassing precedent involving Kingscliff and may also look to ensure the ASF articles of Association clearly ensure that there are no avenues for interstate team "poaching" should any future administrators not have the same high regards for Queensland as has John Constantine.

In the meantime, the two Brisbane NSL sides slowly but surely are beginning to realise that their race has been run and in the all-so-crucial year they have finished among the also-rans.

TURNABOUT FOR THE TAUNTED TARINGA

BATTING Queensland XXXX League club Taringa Rovers have inherited a tag they may find hard to live down.

Taringa coach Iain Kesson used a first round taunt which called his team "turkeys" to inspire Rovers to a shock second round win over Easts recently. Easts had called Taringa "Turkeys" in their club newsletter after downing them 5-0 in a first round. Kesson saved the newsletter and read it to his players in a pre-match psych before their second round return clash.

Kesson proudly boasted after his side has beaten Easts 4-1 that: "The Turkeys gave the Tigers a fright". The tag was eagerly "gobbled" up by the media and made headlines the next day.

Now Taringa Rovers are destined to be the Taringa Turkeys for the remainder of the season. But that doesn't bother Kesson.

"They can call us what they like as long as we keep winning," he said.

Taringa's surprise defeat over Easts finally took the team away from second last place and with the table so tightly packed, they are now a semi-final contender — only weeks after being a relegation candidate!

Kesson always maintained his side would be a competitive outfit once

it got over its first round horror run of injuries, and the secret to Rovers' success has been the successful striking combination of former Lions player Calvin Daunt and Phil Mulvey, an off-season amateur signing from Anerley who is fast becoming the find of the year.

Before the clash with Easts, Daunt and Mulvey were rivalling Easts' Phil Redmond and Jim McDonagh as the most successful striking combination in the league, both pairs had a tally of 16 goals.

But the Taringa duo proved their point when Mulvey netted twice and Daunt once to Redmond's single goal. Mulvey's brace was particularly impressive — his first a volley into the top corner and while for the second he rose like a salmon to stunned Easts keeper Mark Davis.

Taringa now have three matches remaining to consolidate their top four bid and in what can only be a boost to their chance, all three at home. They hosts Olympic United, Coalstars and Lions.

"We are in a situation where we have to win everything to get there, but there is no reason why we can't achieve that," Kesson said.

With the Ampol Cup final on this weekend, those XXXX League clubs not involved will take the weekend off to prepare for the last four rounds in what should be an exciting end to the season.

RUSSELL STEWART MAY GO SOUTH OF THE BORDER

QUEENSLAND's Socceroo squad member Russell Stewart is eying a move south. And while the 22-year-old midfielder will be a handy catch for a Sydney or Melbourne NSL side, they could find themselves bidding against, not Lions, but a host of Queensland XXXX League club.

Stewart, who was in the 24-man national squad for last week's series against Czechoslovakia, has revealed that already three local Brisbane clubs had sounded him over his intentions for next year — particularly in the light of the likely axing of Lions and Brisbane City from the national competition.

A Queensland-based player has not been part of a national squad since Alan Niven turned out for Australia against New Zealand in 1983, and it goes without saying that once the NSL connection is broken, it will be a long time before another Queenslander gets his chance.

While that aspect may be tempting, the former Young Socceroo appears to have no option but head south if he hopes to stay in the reckoning for a green and gold jersey.

Already it has been a major battle for him to win a place in the Socceroos squad despite playing in the NSL and

being a key member of the Queensland team which beat New South Wales 1-0 at Perry Park in June.

"But once I know the situation then I will look at the alternatives. So far there haven't been any offers from southern clubs. But hopefully there will, so at least I will have that option to go south."

AXING

If Brisbane's two clubs are axed from the NSL, as now is extremely likely, Stewart probably will be one of a number of players who will cross the border.

His Lions team-mates Danny Wright, Steve Jackson, David Hunter and brother John are among those either certain to be chased by

southern clubs, or will request transfer listing in the hope of attracting a southern offer.

City's Irish import Kieran Cooper, goalkeeper Robert Harrison and versatile defender Frank Mengotti are among those at Spencer Park likely to attract the most attention.

But it will not be just a matter of southern NSL clubs walking in with the carrot of NSL football as their negotiating lever.

With the two Brisbane clubs no longer burdened with \$30,000 affiliation fees — it will cost them only \$1500 to be part of Queensland XXXX League team — they will have considerable spare cash to make counter offers.

And one club official already has indicated that is where some of its extra money will be going.

"If we are axed from the national league then we will take a hard look at our personnel and decide those players we want to retain. We will be making them very attractive offers to stay," the official said.

"It would be madness to let all we have built in recent years go down



FUNDING

RUSSELL STEWART

the drain. We might not be in the National League next year but there are avenues for us to return. If we can keep the nucleus of a good side then we can develop that next year and return to the NSL as a stronger outfit in 1988.

"To try and make as much money as we can by selling off any player who is approached would be to commit ourselves to perhaps years outside of the NSL."



THE JUNIOR GAME

ASW presents the widest coverage of Junior Soccer
in Australia with Keith Gilmour.

MAGNIFICENT MOVE FOR NSW SCHOOLS

THE 1986 season is one of great significance for schoolboy Soccer in NSW. As a direct result of the formation of the NSW Secondary Schools Soccer Association the first all NSW Secondary Schools Soccer team will be selected following the inaugural State Round Robin Competition.

This association has long been the vision of Soccer administrators, coaches and players. A general interest meeting for the NSW Secondary Schools Soccer Association on May 2 1986 established the association and elected a steering committee to draw up a Constitution and set of By-Laws for the association and to administer the associa-

tion until its first Annual General Meeting.

The following were elected to the steering committee: Mr Glenn Powell CHS, Mr Greg McNaught CHS, Mr Connell Byrne CHS, Mr Chris James CHS, Mr Grant Williams GPS, Mr Chris Acland CAS, Mr Maurice Gilli MCS, Mr Tony Manning MCC.



From a corner taken during the South Coast final of the OAK Bill Turner Cup, Bogeski appeared certain to score from a well taken header. However a brilliant reflex punch over the bar from Woonona's custodian Darren O'Connor thwarted the attempt at goal. Warrington won the match 4-0.

— Photo: Wayne Venables, Illawarra Mercury

AMBITIOUS INDOOR TEAM H.C.F. REBELS UNDER 16

With sponsorship from the Hospitals Contribution Fund, the H.C.F. Rebels U/16 are looking forward to a good season in Indoor Soccer (International Rules) at Revesby Indoor Soccer Centre.

Six of the boys have played for Australia. They come from the Liverpool area and have been selected again this year to travel to the USA.

FRONT ROW: Charlie Ienco, Andrew Robertson, Vince Marciano, Glyn Hubbard.

ROW: Anthony Gasproavic, Glen Valanidas, Stephen Umpleby, John Currao, Russell Davis.



Since its election the steering committee has drawn up the Constitution and By-Laws, organised the NSW Secondary Schools Soccer Association round robin competition, negotiated a three week tour of West Germany for the NSW all schools team, and raised funds to allow the administration of the association up to the first Annual General Meeting to be held in early 1987.

Participants in the recent NSW round robin were:

NSW COMBINED HIGH SCHOOL (1 & 2)

The NSWCHS squad was selected from the ten regional teams that competed in the CHS State Championships in June. The team comprises players from 20 NSW high schools, many of whom play for National League Soccer clubs.

CHS has represented NSW at the Australian Secondary Schools Championships since their inception in 1975, with both the 1984 and 1985 teams being undefeated National Champions.

NSW COMBINED INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

The NSW CIS squad is drawn from players representing 16 senior school teams playing in the Great Public Schools and Combined Associated Schools Soccer Association. Players are first selected to represent their school group in representative fixtures in late July and from those games the CIS squad is then chosen.



The Australian Schoolboys' squad (right) pictured with their Buckinghamshire opponents at the opening game of their United Kingdom tour on January 1. The Australians won 3-0 to create a benchmark for what was an outstanding exercise.

The CCC squad is drawn from players representing 22 senior school teams playing within the Metropolitan Catholic Schools and Metropolitan Catholic Colleges Associations. Players are selected on

the basis of a series of trial matches over three months.

TOUR OF WEST GERMANY

The 18 players selected at the conclusion of NSW Secondary Schools Soccer Associa-

tion Round Robin will tour West Germany, departing on the 28th December 1986 for three weeks.

The side will be billeted for one week in each of three states in West Germany, playing

six to eight matches against club youth sides and under 18 representative sides.

Numerous sightseeing and educational tours have been organised to complement the playing schedule.

ST GEORGE SOCCER CAMPS

AUGUST '86 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

AT THE ST GEORGE STADIUM BESTIC ST ROCKDALE



Under the guidance of NUMBER ONE COACH

FRANK AROK

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COST: Session 1 — \$40 Session 2 — \$40 Session 3 — \$85

Cost of session 3 includes hot lunch, fresh fruit and drinks every day

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EQUIPMENT: All participants are required to bring a Soccer ball (leather or plastic)

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6 to 16 YEARS

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Amateurs, Juniors and Schools

AUSTRALIAN
SCHOOLS SOCCER FEDERATION
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
VALENTINE PARK, PARKLEA, SYDNEY
MON AUGUST 18/FRI AUGUST 22

MONDAY

10.00 a.m. S.A. v N.S.W.
11.30 a.m. ACT v Vic.
1.00 p.m. Qld v W.A.

TUESDAY

9.00 a.m. S.A. v ACT
10.45 a.m. Vic v Qld
12.30 p.m. W.A. v N.S.W.

WEDNESDAY

9.00 a.m. S.A. v Qld
10.45 a.m. N.S.W. v ACT
12.30 p.m. Vic v W.A.

THURSDAY

9.00 a.m. N.S.W. v Vic
10.45 a.m. S.A. v W.A.
12.30 p.m. Qld v ACT

FRIDAY

9.00 a.m. Vic v S.A.
10.45 a.m. W.A. v ACT
12.30 p.m. Qld v N.S.W.

GIRLS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

NSW v ACT Monday 11.30 a.m.;
Wednesday 10.45 a.m.; Friday 9.00 a.m.

MAJOR PROMOTION FOR ALBURY GRAND FINAL

GRAND final day for the Albury-Wodonga Soccer Association has been planned along the lines of an Olympic Games opening ceremony.

The big day is September 28 and the main game kicks off at 2.30pm.

A particular invitation is extended to all Soccer buffs throughout the entire Riverina to see what is certain to be a memorable match.

There will also be a local kick by kick radio cover.

Apart from the various dignitaries present there will be some outstanding events on show.

Four skydivers will land on the Ian Barker Oval and white pigeons will be released to mark the "Year of Peace".

Albury City Band will play Australian and ethnic melodies and referees and young players will carry flags.

Presentations will be carried out by the member for Wodonga, Mr Lou Leiberman MP, and Mr Harold Mair MP, the member for Albury.

Also involved will be the mayors of both cities and the Albury Liberal candidate Mr Ian Glachen.

Marketing manager Mr David Schultz will represent the Hume

FROM FRANK FINLAY

Permanent Building Society, who are the main sponsors of the "Star Player of the Year" award.

Mr Paul Harangago, the manager of Coronet Jewellers, will make a special presentation to the runner-up at the Association Ball.

The idea is to make the day Albury-Wodonga's biggest Soccer event since the association began in 1973.

OAK TURNER CUP

CENTRAL COAST

ROUND ONE

Woy Woy 2 d Berkeley Vale 0, Wyong 6 d The Entrance 3, Henry Kendall (Gosford) 6 d Northlakes 1, Erina 2 d Gosford 0, Umina 7 d Lisarow 1, Mater Dei 2 d Central Coast Grammar 1.

ROUND TWO

Umina 8 d Mater Dei 0, St Edwards 5 d Terrigal 1, Henry Kendall 2 d Erina 1, Woy Woy 6 d Wyong 0.

SEMI FINALS

Umina 9 d Henry Kendall 0, St Edwards 3 d Woy Woy 1.

WE NEED YOU NOW! To give us your junior news, photos, logo's etc. Send to ASW Juniors C/o AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, P.O. Box 406, Broadway, NSW 2007.

SCHOOLS NATIONALS NEXT WEEK AT VALENTINE PARK

THE 1986 Australian Schools Soccer Federation National Titles will be held at Valentine Park, Parklea from Monday August 18 — Friday August 22. A feast to top Senior Schoolboy Soccer is assured.

Once again the Commonwealth Banking Corporation has come to the aid of the ASSF in what is yet another excellent gesture to schools sport.

The ASSF has been conducting National Schools titles since 1975. Many of Australian Soccer Stars have started their representative careers at these titles.

However, the success of the 1985 Australian Schools side has really established the credibility of the ASSF. The squad had a highly successful eight game tour of England and Scotland.

The highlight was the superb 2-1 defeat of the Scottish Schools side at Arbroath. The game which was played in freezing conditions was the Australian Schools' first overseas international. It gained considerable media coverage in the UK.

The side remained undefeated until its last game and only lost its proud record to the England side, when it went down 1-0 (and even then Australia

missed a penalty with 10 minutes left!)

Many of that side are now establishing themselves at senior level. Ernie Tapai (Footscray), David Hunter (Brisbane Lions) and Scott Ollerenshaw (St George) are all NSL regulars.

Alan Armstrong from WA is training with Derby County after the club saw him in England. All the others are playing at State League or National Youth League level.

Therefore it appears certain that many of tomorrow's stars will be on view at the championships.

NSW will be trying to make it a hat-trick of titles — however all States appear determined to stop their trifecta. Indeed, looking at the team lists, all states appear to be sending strong squad.

The Australian Schools side which will be selected at the titles will play Fiji in Sydney on August 23, The Australian Youth side on November 2 and tour New Zealand for 10 days in December.

— CHRIS JAMES

MACQUARIE-NORTHERN NSW U12 CHAMPS



BACK ROW: Jason Rumianek, Adam Hellyer, J. Parry (coach), Stewart Chadban, Lyndsay Walker, Russell Emsley, Derrick Lockhart, G. Parry (manager), Chris Tisdale, Jason Monk. FRONT ROW: Mark Wilson, Todd Smith, Christopher Malone, Todd McManus, Darren White, Darren Lang, Clint Turner, David Wrightson.

MACQUARIE WAITS FOR CENTRAL COAST

THE Macquarie under 12 representative Soccer team could be forgiven for not celebrating their State championship win in Tamworth over the Queen's Birthday holiday weekend until the end of August.

The Macquarie victory, which came from an unbeaten run through the championship rounds, atoned for the team's narrow loss in the 1985 titles when it finished on level points

with Central Coast but ended as runners-up on goal difference.

Macquarie left little to chance this season, finishing with an 18 goals for - two goals against record after playing Mid-North Coast (4-1), North Coast (1-0), Richmond-Tweed (0-0), Newcastle (1-0), New England (0-0), Hunter (2-1) and Clarence River (10-0).

Central Coast was not

at this year's Northern NSW championships, preferring instead to chase the Metropolitan titles.

But the two teams will be out to square accounts in an invitation tournament at Coffs Harbour in the second week of the August school holidays, where both representative teams will be part of a week-long series of matches.

Macquarie's win in Tamworth formed part of the junior body's domination of the age titles, in which it won all tournaments except under-16s.

The success, however, was not completely unexpected. The team was coached again by the father/son combination of Jim and Gavin Parry, Gavin being a former Australian under-15 representative now playing for Rosebud United's youth team.

The squad of 16 also contains a fair slice of Northern football tradition, including as it does the sons of some of the area's well-known players, Gary Turner and Dave McManus among them.

Any inference to the

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES

VERY short notice was originally given to the junior players who were due to play for NSW Country against the ACT in Canberra.

The Country representative co-ordinator has now advised that the games will be played on Sunday September 21.

Players have been notified that the now date will keep the representative games clear of end of season Association matches.

APOLOGY

An item on the Junior Game page on May 13 referred to the Canterbury District Association and officials in charge of the Association representative teams.

The article could have been read to infer that the Executive and administrators of the Association were careless in their choice of representative officials and should be blamed for alleged conduct by particular officials.

The article was not correct in stating that officials had been cited to appear. No officials, coaches or managers of representative sides of the Association have been cited to appear in the 1986 season.

Australian Soccer Weekly does not doubt the integrity and amount of work performed by the Canterbury District Association executive and administrators in their promotion and organisation of senior and junior Soccer, within and outside the district.

Any inference to the contrary from the article is regretted and ASW apologises for any embarrassment caused to the Association by its publication.



NSW YOUTH
LEAGUE
U16 ACTION
BLACKTOWN CITY
V
GLADESVILLE

Results & Tables from Around Australia

NSL RESULTS

NORTHERN DIVISION

CANBERRA 0 drew with CANTERBURY 0 at Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 692.

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	10	3	3	30	12	23
Sydney Olympic	7	8	1	29	18	22
Marconi	7	6	3	27	16	20
Sydney City	6	7	4	33	22	19
Blacktown City	7	4	6	21	26	18
Wollongong	6	5	5	18	15	17
Newcastle	5	6	5	24	25	16
St George	6	4	6	21	25	16
Leichhardt	4	6	6	15	19	14
Canberra	3	6	7	16	20	12
Canterbury	2	6	9	16	31	10
Monaro	2	5	10	13	34	9

SOUTHERN DIVISION

PRESTON 2 (S Smith, G Cole) BRUNSWICK 1 (M Durakovic) at Olympic Park. Crowd: 1500. SUNSHINE 2 (D McLaren, C Gilder) ADELAIDE CITY 0 at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 1856. GREEN GULLY 1 (D Ward) drew with HEIDELBERG 1 (D Brown) at Green Gully Reserve. Crowd: 987. BRISBANE LIONS 1 (D Richardson) BRISBANE CITY 0 at Spencer Park.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brunswick	10	4	3	30	11	24
Footscray	10	4	2	24	18	24
H'berg	7	7	3	29	20	21
Adelaide City	7	6	4	24	16	20
S'Shine	6	8	3	21	15	20
South Melbourne	7	4	5	22	14	18
Preston	5	7	5	18	16	17
Adelaide Hellas	5	3	8	16	22	13
Brisbane Lions	4	4	9	17	22	12
Melbourne Croatia	4	4	8	15	24	12
Brisbane City	2	6	9	15	38	10
Green Gully	2	5	10	13	28	9

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Victoria
Allisons Sports, Bentleigh, Brighton Sports, 15 Churh St, Paddy Pallin, Melbourne, Westgate Sport, Laverton, Mick Simmons, Melbourne, Mountain Design.

Tasmania
Fotheringhams, Launceston, Charltons Sports, Launceston.

Queensland
Robinson Sports, Brisbane, Bill Lee Longs, Cairns.

ACT
Houdini Camping & Sport.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

NORTHERN DIVISION

Canberra 6 Canterbury 3 PS: AIS 29, Blacktown City 28, Sydney City 24, Canberra City 24, St George 23, Marconi 23, Apia Leichhardt 18, Sydney Olympic 18, Wollongong 14, Sydney Croatia 10, Newcastle 8, Canterbury 8, Inter-Monaro 7.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Preston 3 Brunswick Juventus 0, Green Gully 2 Heidelberg 1, Sunshine George Cross 3 Nunawading 0, Brighton 3 Footscray 0. PS: Sunshine 29, South Melbourne 23, Heidelberg 21, Melbourne Croatia 20, Preston 19, Brighton 17, Brunswick Guventus 17, Nunawading 16, Green Gully 14, Footscray 8, Frankston Pines 8, Fawkner 0.

TNT SKYPAK
THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

TNT SKYPAK SOCCER LEAGUE

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

	1st	2nd	3rd
Bondi Marine v Granville Chile	2-2	4-1	9-0
Eastwood v Concordia	0-0	7-1	

INTER URBAN FIRST DIVISION

	1st	2nd
Chelsea v Sydney Uni	2-3	0-1

INTER URBAN SECOND DIVISION

	3-4	0-3
Maroubra United v Rosebery	3-4	0-3
Dulwich Hill v Green Valley	3-2	

INTER URBAN THIRD DIVISION

	1-4	0-2
Sydney Maccabi v Lansvale	1-4	0-2
Green Island v Rangers	1-1	

INTER URBAN FIFTH DIVISION

	4-4	4-0
Orange Waratah v Cobreloa	4-4	4-0

NOTE:

The second grade result in our last issue for the Auburn-Uruguay v Avila game should have been 2-1 for Auburn Uruguay.

VICTORIA

VIC STATE LEAGUE

Caulfield City 1 Thomastown 1, Morwell Falcons 2 Fawkner 0, Northcote City 4 Melbourne 1, Croydon 2 Frankston Pines 1, Polonia 3 Ringwood 1, Springvale City 0 St Albans 1, Western Subs 1 Box Hill 1.

TABLE: Croydon City 28, Springvale 26, St Albans 26, Box Hill 25, Frankston Pines 23, Fawkner 23

APIA SOCCER CLUB

1987 ANNUAL YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

To be held at Lambert Park, Marion St, Leichhardt, every Tuesday and Thursday commencing 16th September.

Trials for U/13 and U/14 every Tuesday

Trials for U/15 and U/16 every Thursday

All trials to commence sharply at 6pm.

Trials will be held on the following dates:

U/13's & U/14's

September 16
September 23
September 30
October 7
October 14
October 21
October 28

U/15's & U/16's

September 18
September 25
October 2
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

For further information contact either Tony Raciti on 799 4458 (from 11am-10pm) or Vince Aiello on 212 5963 (BH).

Messages can be left on the club's number 799 899.

NTH NSW

NORTHERN FEDERATION

Toochies first division

AUSTRAL UNITED 2 (K Meacock, W Bailey) drew with WALLSEND 2 (T Beaven, P Foster) at Austral Park, Birmingham Gardens. Lower grades postponed.

HIGHFIELDS AZZURRI 1 (R Wells) drew with WESTON 1 (M Fulllick) at Whitebridge Oval. Reserve grade: Highfields 1, Weston 1. Under-18: Weston 1, Highfields 0.

CARDIFF versus ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUD: postponed. WEST WALLSEND 2 (W Shiple, R Green) beat CENTRAL COAST 0 at Graham Park, Gosford. Reserve grade: West Wallsend 5, Central Coast 1. Under-18: West Wallsend 3, Central Coast 1.

BELMONT SWANSEA 3 (C Jones, P Winsor, D Butchart) beat LAKE MACQUARIE 1 (R Lawrence) at Macquarie Field, Speers Point. Reserve grade: Belmont 0, Swansea 4, Lake Macquarie 0. Under-18: Belmont 1, Swansea 1, Lake Macquarie 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BelSwans	17	10	4	3	20	8	34
West Walls	16	10	3	3	24	8	33
Lake Macq	17	9	5	3	25	18	30
Austral	17	8	5	4	24	17	29
Hills Azz	17	6	7	4	19	19	25
Adamst	15	6	5	4	21	19	23
Weston	17	4	5	8	16	21	17
Wallsen	17	2	7	8	15	26	13
Cent Coast	17	2	5	10	17	18	11
Cardiff	16	3	21	10	27	11	

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stockton	17	12	2	3	45	21	38
Cessnock	17	11	3	4	40	22	36
Macedonia	17	8	5	4	29	22	29
Port Macq	17	7	4	6	38	32	25
Toronto	16	7	3	6			

THE WOMENS SOCCER SCENE



BOUQUETS & RASBERRIES FROM QUEENSLAND MANAGER

QUEENSLAND under 15 manager Allan Dower has mixed reactions to the Australian under 15 championships held recently in Sydney.

Having in mind the limited number of players available for selection, he regards second place as a credit to an excellent squad.

"This degree of success can largely be attributed to our coach Lyn Ketter and the Wednesday night 2nd Division fixture games.

"They allowed Lyn to use different combinations with our limited player depth to get the best blend of age, experience, maturity and skill into a total team effort," he said.

However Mr Dower feels that something better than 2nd Division games will be needed in future if South Queensland is to reach the top.

GROUCH

The Dower report gives a mixed bag of reactions to the set-up of the championships.

The grounds at outer Barton Park and Waverley Oval came in for a

bagging, as did some of the referees.

The opening ceremony was referred to as "disgraceful, no P.A. system or marching music, reason blamed on the local S.A.F. groundsmen's lateness."

Also criticised were a lack of benches in one situation and absence of footballs for 20 minutes in another.

Certainly NSW president Lal Byers put a lot of time into the titles as did a number of others.

However there could be a deal in what Mr Dower has had to report.

A smaller state in Tasmania handled the series with near professional expertise in 1985.

National goalkeeper Vicki Salmon back in action for Putney against Forest.

— LEE OWENS



Perfect pose in Women's football. A Michael Sara shot snapped at the Morrison's Bay complex in the Ryde area, where many of Sydney's best women's games are staged.

AD GARLICK FORD

DESVILLE - HORNBY WOMEN'S FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



LEFT: The brilliant Julie Dolan (Forest United), with Lisa Gridley and Karen Willis (both of Putney United) in the picture. RIGHT: Forest's Cindy Heydon (light shirt) in a tussle with uncompromising Janelle Thomas of Putney.

CAROL VINSON
(Putney Utd)



LETTERS

AWAY WITH PREJUDICE

IT has become obvious that Australian Soccer is under review and being scrutinized over recent years.

Questions range from a new National League to our performance during this year's World Cup — it is becoming apparent that Soccer in Australia is under challenge.

Most Soccer fans may believe that our game may not be up to world standards nor can it achieve the standard required to compete equally on the international scene.

However on review of the circumstances I believe that Australian Soccer is doing the best it can under demanding circumstances.

It may come as a shock to some Soccer fans but Australian Soccer will not improve unless most Australians' attitudes change towards the international community and abandon their fears and prejudices can we all ourselves true sportsmen.

Despite all that is said and what is done the attitude towards Soccer in this country and among the public must change.

Then and only then will Australian Soccer bear the fruits for our nation that is just being hinted at now.

To the brave people like yourself who make Soccer possible in a type of totalitarian con-

tol of sport by the media, I salute you and continue to hope that Australian Soccer will eventually come of age and be respected and admired by all Australians.

Joe Maurizio
Melbourne

THE MANFRED & JOHNO SHOW

I LOVE watched and supported Sydney Olympic for a good number of years and recently I have been disgusted with the treatment dished out to a mainstay of the side, Stuart Johnston.

For no apparent reason he is banished to the sub's bench, certainly nothing to do with his form.

I know for a fact that there has been trash

news put out in the Greek press about this honest player.

Come on, Manfred, be your own man as it is well known how you rate him.

It is not his fault his name is not Johnopoulos.

Peter Maler
Drummoyne

GOALS COUNT — NOT POINTS

I READ with interest the ASW editorial of July 22nd, concerning the possible change to the points system for next season. Back in 1983, I wrote to ASW, outlining a points system that I believed would encourage more attacking Soccer. Three years later I still believe this system would work.

It's very simple. Scrap the "2 points for a win, 1 for a draw" sys-

tem and instead award teams 1 point for every goal they score.

For example, if Team A beat Team B 4-2, then Team A would receive 4 points and Team B 2 points. This system would surely encourage both sides to attack right up to the final whistle. At the end of the season, the league's top goalscorers would deservedly be the champions.

This system would not necessitate any rule changes, unlike some of the suggestions touted by the so-called "experts" of the game (abolishing goalkeepers, enlarging the goals are two that spring to mind!).

The only real difference it would make to the game, is that coaches would probably have to employ three or four strikers, rather than one or two.

Andrew Prentice,
The Junction,
Newcastle

Readers no doubt would like to comment on this refreshingly candid suggestion — ED.

Wide World of Football



GREAT SOCCER STARS

THERE was a time in his career that GEORGE BEST had it in him to claim the title of the greatest player in the world as his own. The tragedy was that he did as much off the field as he did on it, to the detriment of his character and career itself.

This Week: GEORGE BEST
(Northern Ireland, Manchester United, Stockport County, Fulham, Los Angeles Aztecs, Fort Lauderdale, Brisbane Lions).

On the field he was to most that watched, a true Superstar. Time and again he would produce a piece of sheer genius that set him apart from all the other footballers. In top form and full flight he was was breathtaking to see ... absolute brilliance.

Where the Peles, Cruyffs, Eusebios and the like had the opportunity to display their god-given crafts at the highest level — the World Cup Finals — Best playing for Northern Ireland and did not.

It may have made all the difference had he been afforded this chance. It did not come as his country despite all his efforts could not qualify for the final stages during his reign.

If he could have paraded his skills to a worldwide television audience the acclaim that would undoubtedly have come his way may have banished a lot of the frustration he felt.

While there was little or nothing that Best could not do with a foot-

ball, he had one asset that set him apart from most.

Like Cruyff he had amazing acceleration. But there was nobody in football boots who could move as fast as Best from a standing start.

Add the agility and dexterity which threw most

opponents off balance, and Best became uncatchable.

Towards the end of his career in England he lost some of his electrifying pace and it says much for a fine football brain that he was able to make a major contribution in other ways that did not depend so much on speed.

When he did lose some of the pace, he had to bring his colleagues into the game and possibly became a better all-round player for it.

Best did it all so easily and made it look easy. His one problem was that it took him a bit longer than most to realise football was a team game.

In his virile younger days, he had a tendency to hang on to the ball too long. But he was very conscious that he was the entertainer; he was the player the fans had come to see.

It is undoubtedly that the world did not see half of what Best was capable of, mainly because he brought about his own undoing. But he should be remembered for what he did achieve not what he didn't.

In five-a-side matches in training, he would pull off some unbelievable tricks with the ball in the limited space given.

He was a marvellous dribbler. It was nothing to see him leave four, five and sometimes even six, men standing helplessly.

As evidence of this was one of his remarkable six goals in United's 8-2 FA Cup round win over Northampton. He beat nearly the entire side for one of them.

For a man of only 5ft 8in, and a touch over 10 stone, Best never allowed himself to be intimidated out of the game.

He was strong in the tackle and packed a powerful shot. Not to say that he was never challenged unfairly, he was, all too often. It was a commonly held thought that this is one of the reasons he didn't realise all the potential he had.

Best never got on with referees. His disciplinary record was bad, but most of the offences were for arguing and disputing with referees.

Best eventually became disenchanted with football and therein lies the cause of his apparent disrespect of law and order. He always insisted that he never got the protection to which he was entitled. It was not that he lacked courage, but he resented the fact that he could always name a dozen defenders who would be ready to kick him from the start.

One of the best examples of Best displaying contempt for sticking by what he was told, was when as a teenager playing in European Cup quarter-final for the Red Devils against Benfica, he put United 3-0 up inside the first quarter of an hour, scoring two and making the other. Matt Busby had ordered United to play a containing game in the first 20 minutes!

Best grew up in Belfast, the son of a shipyard worker. He joined United at 15, but returned to Ireland homesick after only two days in Lancashire only to be immediately sent back



GEORGE BEST in action for Manchester United during the 1968 European Cup Final against Benfica.

by his father.

By the time he was 17 he was making his debut in United's First Division team in 1962 and he was rarely out of it when he wanted to play.

He was the new sensation. He was capped for Northern Ireland against Wales when he was only 17. In 1967-68 he was British Footballer of the Year, and the

following December was European Footballer of the Year. Best was only 22, and already there was a sizeable fortune building up from commercial activities off the field.

While he was on the way to making a fortune, he was becoming public property, something that finally broke him.

Twice he announced his retirement and came back. But in 1973-74, the season Manchester United were relegated from the First Division, Best had had enough. He was only 28.

He then proceeded to move between the USA and England for a game and became involved in wrangles over his contracts. Later in his

career he began a series of guesting roles, in Britain and finally Australia where he turned out for Brisbane Lions.

He even made a guest appearance at Cromer Park in the Manly area of Sydney.

George Best, at his best, was a truly great artist who left an indelible mark on the minds of all who saw him in full cry.

ALLAN JONES OIL BOUND AND NOT BITTER

AS ASW reported last week, ex-New Zealand national team coach and current Kiwi Director of Coaching ALLAN JONES is leaving for a managerial position in the rich oil land of Kuwait.

Prior to departing, Jones, who coached New Zealand at both Senior and Youth level claimed: "I'm not bitter or cynical as I leave the NZFA."

"The NZFA asked me to do a job, I've done it, been paid for it and now I'm leaving. I'm a professional and doing a job for remuneration is what it is all about."

Jones disclosed that he left the NZFA with no animosity between him and his former bosses despite his shock sacking. So as it stands he had no recriminating farewell to give Charlie Dempsey and Company.

"My message is simply this: I wish the NZFA and the person who takes my job the very best of luck."

As his term in the 'oil fields' with club side Al Jahra is for only one year, he promises he will be back in the Shaky Isles looking for a job next year.

He emphatically states: "I am a Kiwi now." The former Dar-

CHECK THIS WORLD TEAM

BETTER late than never, here's my dream World Cup team; picked on an amazing 3-4-4 system to attack all day long.

PFAFF (Belgium), JOSIMAR (Brazil), BROWN (Argentina), AMOROS (France), MARADONA (Argentina), BURRUCHAGA (Argentina), CEULEMANS (Belgium), ALLOFS (West Germany), ALTOBELLI (Italy), CARECA (Brazil), BELANOV (Soviet Union). Subs: ELKAER (Denmark), TIMOUMI (Morocco)

A bit outrageous yes, but a great side anyway.

AFTER the Football Association of Venezuela had carried out regular new elections in the presence of a FIFA observer, the suspension of this Association was lifted. Thus, Venezuela is again entitled to participate in all of FIFA's activities.

DURING the World Cup in Mexico Soviet journalists brought sad news about the great Lev Yashin, the flamboyant keeper who used to dress completely in black on and off the field.

Lev had a leg amputated a couple of years ago and has been drinking heavily ever since ... what a shame.

TERRY BUTCHER has finally ended all the talk and signed for Graeme Souness's Glasgow Rangers side. Butcher is the third big signing made by Souness, the others being Chris Woods from Norwich and Colin West from Watford.

★★★★★

GAY PAREE

★★★★★
IN a pre-season tournament in Paris, the home side Paris St Germain took out the final when they defeated Sporting Lisbon of Portugal 5-1 in the final.

St Etienne, also of France, took the third place play-off match 3-0 over European Champions, Steaua Bucharest of Romania.



GEORGE BEST with two of his lady friends.

BRIEFLY FROM SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA: Estudiantes have gone to the top of the Argentinian Championship after 4 rounds after defeating Platense 2-0 away from home last weekend.

Talleres are also on six points with Estudiantes but have an inferior goal difference. Talleres could only manage a goalless draw with Instituto de Cordoba.

Last week's leader Gimnasia — Esgrima de La Plata went down to River Plate 1-0 in Buenos Aires and dropped to third spot.

1985 South American champions Argentinos Juniors are having an awful time. Out of a competition of 20 teams they are in the disastrous place of 18th. They managed only a 0-0 draw with Deportivo Espanol at home.

In the other results: Temperley 0 Ferrocarril Oeste 1; Union Sante Fe 1; San Lorenzo 1; Rosario Central 2; Independiente 4; Racing Club 2; Newell's Old Boys 0; Velez Sarsfield 3; Racing de Cordoba 1; Boca Juniors 1; Deportivo Italiano 0.

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COLOMBIA: Millonarios are the leaders in the Colombian League after accounting for local rivals Pereira 3-0.

Millonarios are currently undefeated after eight rounds in the 'Edmer Tamayo' (Colombian League), having scored an amazing 42 goals.

The rest of the results are as follows: Nacional 1; Junior 1; Quindio 0; Medellin 0; Cali 3; Tolima 1; Caldas 2; Santa Fe 1; America 3; Bucaramanga 1; Magdalena 2; Cucuta 1.

The table reads as follows: Millonarios 12, America 11, Quindio 11, Caldas 11, Cali 11, Santa Fe 10, Medellin 5.

10, Bucaramanga 8; Nacional 8; Magdalena 8; Junior 5; Perera 3; Tolima 2; Cucuta 2.

◇ ◇ ◇

URUGUAY: IN the Uruguayan qualifying tournament for a spot in the Copa Libertadores, Defensor and Danubio lead their respective groups.

There are two groups named Serie A and Serie B.

In last weekend's matches: Rampla Juniors 4 defeated River Plate 1; Bella Vista 1; Huracan Buceo 0; Defensor 2; Cerro 0; all Serie A matches.

Serie B: Central Espanol 1; Wanderers 0; Danubio Fenix.

First and second in each group qualify for the semi-finals on August 25 and then the two winners play in the final on August 31 to earn a place in the Copa Libertadores.

◇ ◇ ◇

DESPITE all the talk of his upcoming retirement, champion Uruguayan international and Penarol goalscorer extraordinaire FERNANDO MORENA continues to play on.

The idol of Uruguayan football who is now 34-years-old says: "I think I'll play in the Uruguayan championship until Penarol become champions."

◇ ◇ ◇

RIVER PLATE (Argentina) are favourites to win Group One of the Copa Libertadores — although Wanderers (Uruguay) are well and truly in the hunt.

CHILE: Fernandez Vial have held onto their lead at the top of the Chilean First Division, albeit only on goal difference.

After six rounds Vial are on 8 points, level with three other clubs, namely, Palestino, Cobresal and Deportivo Concepcion.

Vial got to the top spot with a hard fought 1-0 win over Everton. In the other results: Deportes Naval 1; Cobreloa 1; Rangers 2; Audax Italiano 0; Universidad de Chile 1; Colo Colo 0; Universidad Catolica 2; Huachipato 0; San Luis 3; Magallanes 1.

◇ ◇ ◇

EQUADOR: THE hassles involving Copa Libertadores Group 4 remain.

Deportivo Quito are arguing that Group winners Barcelona, also of Ecuador, played CARLOS CASZELY of Chile illegally during the match between the two Ecuadorian clubs and they should be disqualified.

Barcelona topped the group on eight points, with Quito and Brazilian champions, Curitiba on seven.

Quito argue that Caszely had not completed the correct procedures in signing and if their claims stand Barcelona would be stripped of two points and they would win through.

But Barcelona president, Heinz Medeller says: "We acted in accordance with all the rules over Caszely's signing. We stand by our decision to play him against all including the AEF (Asociacion Ecuatoriana de Futbol)."

MAGICAL Michel Platini of France and Juventus fame says he will retire at the end of the forthcoming season.

The 31-year-old French superstar made the surprise announcement while on holiday on the island resort of Phuket, near Bangkok.

He added he would like to serve mankind in anti-narcotics programmes once his football career was over.

"I cannot do it alone, but will seek some help from an international organisation after I get back home," Platini said from the Club Mediterraneo hotel at which he was staying.

With his clubs in France, Nancy and St

won most of football's top honours, except for the biggest of them all, the World Cup.

With his current club Juventus of Italy he has won the Italian Championship, the Italian FA Cup, the European Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup and the World Club Championship. Add to this the European Footballer of the Year three years running coinciding with the top scorer (goleador) in Italian football for the same period, the World Footballer of the Year in 1984 and '85 then the European Championship with France in 1984, and Platini is one of the greatest players ever to lace a boot.

With his clubs in France, Nancy and St

Etienne, he brought home much silverware. He also played 68 times for his country and scored a phenomenal 41 goals.

The World Cup eluded him. In 1978 France drew the toughest group, and were beaten by Italy and eventual champions Argentina. Four years later in Spain, Platini and company reached the semi-finals only to lose to West Germany on penalties after hold-

ing a 3-1 lead in extra-time.

They met their nemesis again this year in Mexico and went out playing the poorest football they had for quite a while — this after disposing of champions Italy and Brazil.

The French dream and Platini was shattered. Now he has one more season with Juventus to possibly put the icing on top of what has been a fruitful career.

THE EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS

ON September 17 the entire European Competition will kick-off but for a few clashes.

The draw is as follows:

127 teams from 32 different nations will take part.

The majority of the clubs will have their first games on September 17 with the return first round leg on the October 1.

The second round will be played on October 22 and November 5. Only the UEFA Cup competition will have a third round and these games will be on November 26 and December 10.

All the quarter-finals will be played on March 4 and 18 next year and the semis on April 8 and 22.

The respective finals will be played as follows: UEFA Cup — May 6 and 20 (home and away), Cup Winners' Cup — May 13 and the Champions' Cup — May 27.

For the two latter competition finals the games will be on neutral territory.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP

PSV Eindhoven — Bayern Munich
FC Porto — Rabat Ajax
Juventus — Value
Reykjavik
Red Star — Panathinaikos
Anderlecht — Gornik Zabrze
Avenir Beggen — Austria Vienna
Beroe Stara Zagora — Dinamo Kiev
Young Boys Berne — Real Madrid
Broendby — Honved
Budapest
Besiktas — Dinamo Tirana
Apoel Nicosia — HJK Helsinki
Rosenborg — Linfield
Oergryte Goteborg — Dinamo Berlin
Shamrock Rovers — Glasgow Celtic
Paris St. Germain — Vitoria
Steaua Bucharest (Champions have Bye)

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP

Rapid Vienna — FC Bruges
AS Roma — Real Saragoza
Benfica — Lillestroem
17 Nentori Tirana — Dinamo Bucharest

University of Cracova — Galatasaray

Rijeka — Standard Liege

AC Napoli — Toulouse

Spartak Moscow — Lucerne

WORLD CUP ACTION



ABOVE is one of the many award-winning photo's taken during the 1986 World Cup. The players in battle are Wilmar Cabrera of Uruguay (left) and Oscar Ruggeri of Argentina (right).

ENGLISH FEAR CONTINUING EXODUS

THE transfer of GARY LINEKER to Spanish giants BARCELONA FC was just another chapter in the continuing saga of English defections to the continent.

Leading English clubs are being stripped of their top players continuously. England is facing the day when their football will be bankrupted, even if inadvertently, by the departure of their millionaire stars to other parts of Europe.

Lineker, Mark Hughes and Ian Rush will be millionaires before they turn 30, and the loss of their class and skills to the English game is a very detrimental factor.

Lineker's \$4,600,000 transfer from Everton to Spain means the Football League lost its three top strikers in less than three months.

Small consolation for Liverpool is that Rush will not move until next season to giant Italian club Juventus.

Losing quality stars to foreign clubs is nothing new to England, but the gap has begun to widen.

Every time an English-based player hits the headlines, it will echo around the corridors of the European clubs.

It's a situation of not knowing whether to laugh or cry if you are a manager when a player displays world class ability. Add to this the fact that fans will become increasingly tired of buying season tickets only to see the players they expected to watch sold abroad.

Lineker cracked in 40 goals for Everton last season. They finished runners-up in both the League and FA Cup. But who will the Merseysiders find to replace him with the \$4,600,000 they received — especially after Leicester got the \$1,300,000 they are due as part of the deal that took Lineker from Filbert Street last year?

So then ... who is next?

They owe it to themselves to get the best out of their jobs, just like anyone else.

Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association says: "It's a great move for a player like Lineker, but awful for our game.

"We have now lost our three best strikers in one short summer and this star drain will, in the long run, damage the quality of our game.

"We have lost Liam Brady, Trevor Francis, Graeme Souness, Steve Archibald, Mark Hateley, Ray Wilkins, Paul Rideout and Gordon Cowans in recent years and they have not been replaced.

"Now is the time for our clubs to think of importing players from Brazil, France and Denmark.

"Meanwhile the PFA, with the League and F.A., are looking at various ways, tax-wise, to make it more attractive for the stars to stay."

HAMISH McALPINE, the veteran goalkeeper who was released by Dundee United at the end of last season, has joined Raith. McAlpine turned down offers from Hamilton and Clyde. He could also have stayed at Tannadice in a coaching capacity but has opted to continue playing.



GARY LINEKER, English striker and now in Spain with Barcelona. Lineker was the World Cup's leading scorer with six goals.

CHRIS WOODS OUT ON A LIMB?

FOLLOWING his record transfer with Glasgow Rangers, current England number two goalkeeper CHRIS WOODS was worried that it might affect his international career.

He needn't have worried though. English manager Bobby Robson gave the up-and-coming keeper a giant boost when he assured him that his \$1.2 million move would not influence the situation at all.

Woods was torn between the challenge of linking up with Graeme Souness at Ibrox Park and going back to the First Division with Norwich City to back up his new position as deputy

behind England's Peter Shilton.

"I had a word with Bobby Robson about the transfer and he told me it would not influence him in the slightest," says Woods.

"After all, moves to Italy have not hindered the international progress of Mark Hateley and Ray Wilkins and I wouldn't imagine Gary Lineker's transfer to Spain would put him out of the running for an England place.

"I've moved to Scotland simply because of the offer I received. Norwich just couldn't offer that sort of money.

"I'm joining one of the biggest clubs in Europe. If anything, I may have boosted my international chances by moving across the border.

"Graeme Souness hasn't lost any of the ambition that made him a European Cup winner with Liverpool and he insists Rangers have more resources than at Anfield!"

Woods and Rangers will not name any figures but as number one custodian he can expect to earn up to \$140,000 a year.

FINGERS CROSSED — PLAYERS EXODUS IN BRITISH SHORTS ...

WIGAN ATHLETIC's manager RAY MATHIAS is keeping his fingers crossed ... hoping that the exodus from his club is over.

When midfielder Kevin Langley joined Everton he became the sixth first teamer to make his exit from Springfield Park.

Mathias, who took over a fortnight ago when Bryan Hamilton also quit the hard-up Third Division club for Leicester City said:

departure will help slash Wigan's debts of around \$800,000. And Mathias — who has drawn up his own transfer list — admitted: "There won't be a lot of money available to me to bring in new players, but we can

not stand in any players' way." And so Mathias still has to persuade skipper, Colin Methven to sign a new contract.

FIFA/UNICEF BENEFIT MATCH

ON July 27 in Pasadena, California in the Rose Bowl Stadium, 60,000 spectators flocked to see the world's best players get together for a benefit match in aid of UNICEF.

The ninety minutes proved a fiesta of football and entertainment with the final score being 2-2 and the man they had all come to watch — Diego Maradona quite rightly striking the

winning penalty, that made it 4-3.

In the 14th minute the Rest of the World went 1-0 up new Rangers defender Terry Butcher, when he leapt above three American defenders to powerfully head in a free-kick from Gordon Strachan.

Paolo Rossi making a belated return into international football put the Rest of the World 2-0 up after 59 minutes when he brilliantly volleyed in a crossfield pass from West Germany's Felix Magath

into the net.

This gave Rossi a unique record of having scored in all three of his Rest of the World appearances, in 1979 3-1 v Argentina, 1982 3-2 v Americas and this year.

With only 10 minutes remaining Roberto Cabanas of Paraguay pulled a goal back for the Americas and in the 87th minute Maradona turned on some brazen skill to level it up at 2-2.

The penalty shoot-out went as follows: Falcao, Alemão, Cabanas and

Maradona scored for the Americas whilst Negrete had his shot saved by Renat Dasaev. For the Rest of the World: Rossi, Lerby and Strachan scored whilst Roberto Fernandez saved kicks from both Amoros and Sun Park.

AMERICA: Nery Pumpido (Argentina), Josimar (Brazil), Jose Luis Brown (Argentinian), Julio Cesar (Brazil), Reul Servin (Mexico), Alemão (Brazil), Paolo Roberto Falcao (Brazil), Jorge Nunez (Paraguay), Roberto Cabanas (Paraguay), Diego Maradona (Argentina), Manoel Negrete (Mexico). Substitutes were Roberto Fernandez (Paraguay), Fernando Quiarate (Mexico), Julio Cesar Romero (Paraguay) and Paul Caligiuri (USA).

REST OF THE WORLD: Pat Jennings (Nth Ireland), Michel Renquin (Belgium), Uli Stielike (West Germany), Terry Butcher (England), Manoel Amoros (France), Soren Lerby (Denmark), Felix Magath (West Germany), Gordon Strachan (Scotland), Igor Belanov (Soviet Union), Paolo Rossi (Italy), Dominique Rocheteau (France). Substitutes were: Renat Dasaev (Soviet Union), Mohammed Timoumi (Morocco), Park Chang-sun (South Korea) and Heinz Hermann (Switzerland).

FORMER Arsenal star Danny Clapton killed himself with a cocktail of drink and drugs according to a London inquest.

Clapton, capped by England against Wales in 1959, was being treated in a London hospital for his fourth suicide attempt when he discharged himself and went home in his pyjamas to swallow a massive dose of pain killers along with a bottle of rum.

PAT JENNINGS has had a railway engine named after him in his native Northern Ireland.

The Belfast and County Down Railway Museum Trust are calling one of their preserved steam locomotives after the goalkeeper with a world record 119 caps.

FORMER English international LAURIE CUNNINGHAM has had his hopes of a League comeback all but dashed.

Leicester City had Cunningham on a six-month loan from French club Marseilles but new boss Bryan Hamilton says he is not interested in the speedy forward.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY are likely to sign defender Ken Brannigan from Scottish amateur club, Queen's Park and Sheffield United striker Keith Edwards has rejected a new contract offer.